

## Mr Sadat tells Israelis the price of peace is end to occupation

President Sadat of Egypt, in an historic 60-minute address to the Knesset in Jerusalem, and watched by millions on television throughout the world, yesterday invited the Israelis to live with their Arab neighbours in "full security and safety". But the price for building "a huge edifice of peace" must be full withdrawal from the occupied territories,

including "Arab Jerusalem", and acceptance of Palestinian rights, he told his hosts. The reply of Mr Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, was respectful but contained no new concessions. Arab fury at Mr Sadat's visit was demonstrated by a call from a pro-Syrian Palestinian group for the President's assassination (Report, page 6).



President Sadat wipes sweat from his brow while addressing the Knesset. At right is Mr Isaac Shamir, the Speaker.

## Mr Begin's reply ignores Palestinian problem

By Edward Mortimer

Jerusalem, Nov 20  
The President of Egypt stood today before the 120 elected representatives of the Israeli people and told them: "You are to live with us in this part of the world. In all sincerity, I tell you, we welcome you among us with full security and safety."  
He described the occasion as a tremendous turning point, "the dawn of a new era in the history of the Jewish people and the Arab people." But he also said that the present can have disagreed with him.  
In a carefully composed and eloquently delivered speech, peppered with quotations from the Bible and references to the prophets, Mr Sadat said that the Jewish people had a right to live in their own state, but he warned them that the price of peace must be full withdrawal from all the territories occupied in 1967, including "Arab Jerusalem", and acceptance of "the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people and their right to self-determination, including their right to establish their own state". He

did not, however, refer by name to the Palestine Liberation Organisation.  
In a reply which was unscripted (though the main lines of it had been approved by his Cabinet this morning), Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, surprised many of his hearers by not even alluding to the Palestinian problem, either directly or indirectly. He, too, quoted frequently from Holy Writ and spoke "respectfully of both the Jewish religion and the 'great Arab nation'". But his speech did not contain any new element remotely comparable to the enormous gesture Mr Sadat had made in coming in person to Israel.  
Mr Sadat spoke in Arabic and Mr Begin in Hebrew. Israeli listeners, who know both languages, conceded readily that if it were viewed as a contest in oratory Mr Sadat emerged an easy winner. "Begin never really took off," was one comment.  
Mr Begin, a noted soap-box orator with an undisputed talent for polemic, was perhaps not at his best in a speech which clearly called for a generous and conciliatory tone. But more important no doubt was the political decision not to be

**PLO fury** 6  
**Partial text** 6  
**Ecstatic welcome** 7  
**Breaking the barriers** 14  
**A dream come true** 14  
**Leading article** 15

drawn into making public concessions in advance of any real negotiation.  
The Israeli Cabinet is, of course, well aware of the political risks that Mr Sadat has taken in coming to Israel, and of the need to reward him with some significant concessions—not only to strengthen his position at home and in the Arab world but above all to preempt what is expected to be a very strong American pressure for a suitable response. But the Israeli leaders evidently feel that negotiations can be conducted only around a table, and not in public speeches that are tested worldwide.  
The sort of concessions which they are thought to have in mind are: full recognition of Egyptian sovereignty in Sinai up to the pre-1948 frontier, with a leasing arrangement enabling Israeli forces to stay at Sharm el-Sheikh on the

Straits of Tiran for a fixed period of years; a "greatly increased administrative role" for King Hussein in the West Bank of Jordan, together with free use of and transit to a Mediterranean port in the Golan strip while leaving the issue of sovereignty unsettled; and Saudi guardianship of the Muslim holy places in Jerusalem.  
It seems very doubtful, however, if either King Hussein or King Khalid of Saudi Arabia would agree to be party to such an arrangement, and therefore, as an attempt to give Pan-Arab respectability to Mr Sadat's initiative, it would fail.  
The only other speaker was Mr Shimon Peres, leader of the opposition Labour Party, who echoed much of what Mr Begin had said. But he added that Labour was "ready for territorial conferences with each and every one of our Arab neighbours" (ie, including Jordan).  
The matter of speculation here, as in the Arab world, is whether Mr Sadat's visit should be seen as the prelude to a new bilateral agreement between Egypt and Israel.  
Mr Begin was careful to disclaim any ambition to divide and rule "the Arab world, or to

drive a wedge between Egypt and other Arab states. He tactfully quoted the King of Morocco, one of the few Arab leaders who has come out publicly in support of Mr Sadat, as saying that there was no justification for the day of mourning proclaimed in Syria yesterday, while repeating his invitations to King Hussein and to the Presidents of Syria and Lebanon to follow in Mr Sadat's footsteps.  
President Sadat himself, of course, strongly disclaimed any intention of seeking a separate peace or a new interim agreement. But he did repeat that his decision to come to Israel had been taken without consulting "any of my colleagues and brothers, the Arab heads of state or the confrontation states".  
Mr Sadat had talks with Mr Begin and other Israeli ministers both before and after the Knesset meeting, and tomorrow he will meet the leaders of the various Israeli political parties. But he concluded his speech today by emphasizing that he did not expect concrete results during this visit. "I have come here to deliver a message," he said. "I have delivered the message, and may God be my witness."

## London publication of 'Mirror' stopped

The board of Mirror Group Newspapers announced last night that the Daily Mirror would stop publication in London immediately until further notice and that today all Mirror journalists in London would be given notice and an ultimatum in terms of a return to work.  
The board held an emergency meeting yesterday over the continuing dispute with the journalists, who are demanding overall rises of £3,000 a year. A statement afterwards said: "Interference has reached such a magnitude that continued publication in London is now impossible."  
Production in Manchester is not affected.  
Mr Percy Roberts, chairman and chief executive of Mirror Group Newspapers, said: "The company fully appreciates the seriousness of the step it is taking. A long stoppage must threaten the existence of one or more titles."  
The same warning of drastic action would go to journalists on the Sunday Mirror, Sunday People and Revereille unless agreement was reached by 11 a.m. on Thursday.  
Mr Kenneth Ahern, general secretary of the National Union of Journalists, said that he was worried and would meet the father of the Mirror chapel (office branch chairman) today. Mirror journalists held a mandatory union meeting at the board met. Afterwards Mr Roberts said: "Notices will be issued tomorrow to all London Daily Mirror journalists. An accompanying

letter will state that a return to work will be conditional on the company on the following terms:  
One, that a company offer is accepted and other claims withdrawn; two, that there will be no pay for those who work while in breach of their contracts and there will be no allowances or expenses during that period. There will be a loss of pay in respect of the issues of Saturday and Sunday, that it is accepted that the current disputes procedure, which prohibits any action which interferes with production without the editor's written approval when those meetings would interfere with production.  
Mirror group journalists want £3,000 a year more overall to cover their house claim and the switch by the management to new production technology.  
On Friday the journalists rejected the latest offer. That was an increase of £1,533 a year in salaries and allowances, and a promise of a merit review which would take into account extra skills and responsibilities of those directly involved with the planned new production system.  
The proposal included the loss of 45 London staff jobs. "Scotsman" dispute ends: The Scotsman resumed publication last night after the ending of a week-long pay dispute between the journalists and management. But publication of its sister paper, the Edinburgh Evening News, is still in doubt.

## Anti-Nato party scores big gains in Greek elections

From Mario Modiano  
Athens, Nov 20  
The Greeks voted today for a new Parliament in a general election, that revealed a new balance between the forces loyal to Europe and the West and the supporters of an alignment in international relations.  
Results tonight, from 1,670 out of 13,115 polling stations in the country, gave a total of 57,128 valid votes with this distribution:  
New Democracy 244,611 (42.7 per cent); Pasok 138,432 (24.2 per cent); DCU 78,905 (13.8 per cent); Communists 45,317 (7.9 per cent); Eurocommunists 13,515 (2.4 per cent); and National Rally 37,872 (6.6 per cent).

While Mr Karamanlis's New Democracy remains firmly in the lead with over two-fifths of the vote, spectacular gains were scored by Mr Papandreu's Pasok, which advocates Greece's complete withdrawal from Nato and the supporters of an alignment in international relations.  
It was still too early to analyse these results which represent about one tenth of the vote. But it was evident that the Democratic Centre Union under Mr George Pavlos, who had been the chief opposition leader in the last Parliament, had lost much appeal because of its moderation in foreign affairs.  
Another impressive development is the virtual routing of the Eurocommunists by the Moscow-oriented Communist Party.

## Labour paper on spending oil cash sets scene for election battle

By Michael Hatfield  
Political Reporter

An ideological battle between the Government and the Conservative Party at the next general election over how to make best use of revenues from North Sea oil is indicated in a confidential document that goes before a meeting of Cabinet ministers and trade union leaders today.  
The document has been drawn up by Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy. It will be discussed by the Cabinet-TUC Labour Party liaison committee.  
It sets out six spending options: overseas investment, repayment of foreign debt, tax reductions, public services and social infrastructure, investment in manufacturing industry, and investment in energy. It makes the point that the revenue will be by no means big enough to have an important impact on all those areas simultaneously.

Preliminary consultations with union leaders indicate that they have little doubt that the emphasis should be on public spending and investment. That view is likely to be shared by most Labour politicians.  
The Conservatives are expected to want to use the resources on overseas investment, repaying the nation's debts and reducing taxation.  
Revenue from North Sea oil will not have reached its highest level until the mid-1980s, but the scene is being set for a fundamental argument over priorities between the two main parties when Mr Callaghan decides to face the electorate.  
The document does not say what options the Government will settle for. It says: "There are two broad views on how we should proceed. One view is that the options are not mutually exclusive and some are mutually supportive; the relationship priority attached to each option may alter through time and it would therefore not be

wise to narrow down the options at this stage.  
"The other view is that the revenues, which at their maximum will probably amount to only £3,500m a year, are not large enough to finance more than two of these options on a significant scale, that commitment to any two would necessarily preclude spending on the others, and that the choice of options, once made, should be expected to endure.  
"The representatives from the TUC and the party's national executive committee are likely to press Cabinet ministers today to concentrate on public spending and investment.  
"The conditions are that the document, as given in the Overseas investment: It would be possible to use the oil revenues to make a big cut in government borrowing while abolishing exchange controls to that private funds were free to flow abroad. Some would argue that investment abroad would provide Britain with a more secure future.  
Continued on page 2, col 4

## Snow blocks many roads in Scotland and North

Heavy snow fell in Scotland and northern England last night and meteorologists forecast more today. Other parts, including Somerset, suffered hailstorms, leaving icy layers nearly 2in thick on many roads and causing several accidents.  
Drifts blocked roads in Scotland and the Automobile Association warned motorists not to travel if they could avoid it.  
Snow also fell in south-west Wales. At Glemore Lodge, in the Carmarthen, 11in was recorded.  
In Northumberland the A1 was blocked several times at Felthorpe Bank, north of Alnwick, with sliding lorries. Late in the afternoon, however, it was the only road open between Newcastle and Edinburgh.  
The A68 and A69 into Scotland were closed near Morpeth. Traffic was diverted.  
The M5 near Bridgewater, Somerset, was closed for nearly two hours after five accidents in a sudden snowstorm. Six people were injured, one seriously.  
Crashes happened on both carriageways between the Edinborough and Huntworth interchanges.

Four men were missing off the Dutch coast yesterday after the crew of five of a West German coaster, the Colonia, abandoned ship in heavy seas.  
A shaft several hundred feet deep and 30ft wide opened on a Midlands main road after a van had driven over it. Police said: "It just caved in. There was no warning."  
Police diverted traffic and closed three lanes of the main Wolverhampton-Birmingham road near the Burntwood traffic island, about seven miles from Wolverhampton.  
Workers with pneumatic drills began the dangerous job of removing the tarmac crust from the ever-widening hole in a built-up area. Serious traffic congestion is expected today.  
The area used to be riddled with mine workings. West Midlands County Council promised an immediate investigation.  
Snow may fall anywhere in Britain today, the Meteorological Office said.  
The cold weather, caused by strong northerly winds, is expected to last for the rest of this week, with temperatures below the seasonal average.  
Forecast, page 2

## Labour campaign against direct elections Bill

By Our Political Reporter

Labour opponents of the Bill for direct elections to the European Assembly are to step up their campaign this week for conditions that Mr Callaghan and most of his Cabinet colleagues are unlikely to accept.  
Left-wing members of the party's national executive committee, when it meets on Wednesday, the day before the Bill has its second reading debate in the Commons, are expected to insist that the Bill should include clauses preventing the European Assembly from having any legal power over state Parliaments; candidates should be elected on a "first-past-the-post" system; and each member state should have the right to choose its own election day within agreed dates.  
Some say that about a hundred Labour MPs will vote against the second reading. They are also planning to table amendments that would invali-

date the Act if the assembly did increase its powers.  
While Conservative support will ensure the fate of the Bill on second reading, the Government cannot afford to ignore the opposition in its own ranks if it is to avoid an embarrassing dispute.  
Ministers opposed to the EEC will be allowed to abstain on Thursday and there will be a free vote on the type of election system, although the date for that vote has not yet been decided.  
While the Bill enshrines the proportional representation list system in order to safeguard the power of the Liberals, that is not expected to be carried, and it is felt that a majority in Parliament will vote for the Westminster "first-past-the-post" system.  
Mr Norman Atkinson, a leading Tribune group member and treasurer of the party, said yesterday: "A major debate is taking place within the party on the best way of ensuring that the European Parliament does not increase its powers."  
EBC Liberals' pressure, page 8  
David Wood's column, page 15

## 130 die in Portuguese airline's first crash

From Jose Serechiff

Lisbon, Nov 20  
One hundred and thirty people were killed in an air crash at Funchal, in Madeira last night. There are 34 survivors, many with serious injuries and burns. Five were on the ground last night. Most of the passengers are reported to be Portuguese or Belgians.  
It was the first crash of a passenger aircraft belonging to TAP, the Portuguese national airline.  
The crash occurred when TAP flight 425, a Boeing 727 flying from Brussels to Funchal, was landing at the airport. The aircraft, carved in the sheer volcanic rock of the coastline, lies 13 miles east of the capital. It is considered a miracle of modern engineering but is unpopular with pilots.  
According to eyewitnesses the aircraft skidded on landing in bad weather, the fuselage broke in two at the end of the runway and there was an explosion. Fire brigades fought the blaze and troops sealed off the area, while a naval patrol searched the sea for survivors.  
The pilot, copilot and four other crew were killed. The only survivors among the crew were a steward and a stewardess. Both were later said to be injured but not in danger. Two children were reported to be among the dead.  
A special commission of inquiry flew from Lisbon to Funchal today.

Funchal, Madeira, Nov 20.  
The airline, its visibility obscured by rain and fog, did not land until it was halfway down the runway. It did not have time to stop before crashing over the precipice 60 yards above a rocky beach.  
As a crowd of waiting relatives watched from the airport reception lounge, the aircraft bounced over a granite bridge, then split into two as it hit the beach in an explosion. The rear section was thrown into the sea as passengers were hurled in all directions.  
A lot of the passengers' relatives were waiting in the airport when the airliner bounced over the cliff "an airport official said. "When they saw the explosion, they began to scream, run, vomit and faint."

One of the survivors was a small child who landed in a banana plantation several hundred yards from the crash site. Another was a Madeira shopkeeper, Jose Barrolomeu de Sousa, aged 51, who landed in the sea.  
"I had the luck to fall in the water and I thought I only had one or two minutes to live to give me time to use my head and survive," he said. "The crash must have parted near where I was sitting. I unfastened my seat belt and fell into the water."  
He said it was a bad trip from the very beginning. Turbulence while forced the passengers to remain with their seat belts on throughout the flight and once over Madeira the pilot had to circle several times to find a break in the clouds.  
"When the chance appeared to land, he took it," Senhor de Sousa said.

The airport is considered to be among the more dangerous ones in the world. Its relatively short runway is bound at both ends by precipices high above the Atlantic and is only long enough to take a Boeing 727.  
The death toll is expected to rise to 133 when wreckage is lifted from the beach and divers complete a search, officials said.  
A TAP spokesman said there were 65 foreigners on board. But no passenger list would be issued until tomorrow at the earliest because of checks and identification still to be made.  
Hospital authorities said they had been told there were Belgian, Swiss, Spanish, Italian, South African, British, French and West German nationals on board. They had not yet been able to make a complete positive identification.  
Senhor Luis Costa Pereira, public relations officer of TAP, said there was no indication that bad weather had caused the crash—UPI, Reuters and AP.

Continued on page 2, col 4

## Smith plan to rule with black leaders

Mr Ian Smith is expected to offer changes in Rhodesia's constitution and bring African leaders into his administration in an internal settlement. He said in a weekend interview that the Anglo-American proposals had been universally rejected by Rhodesians. "New initiatives have started," he said, "and I anticipate that serious decisions will be made during this coming week." He had worked last week to bring

together the internal nationalist groups: the United African National Council, led by Bishop Muzorewa, the African National Council of the Rev Ndabingi Sithole, and the Zimbabwe United People's Organisation. The latter is headed by Senator Chief Chirau. Mr Andrew Young, the American representative at the United Nations, denied yesterday that the Anglo-American proposals had been rejected. Page 9

## Police inquiry into racialism

The Attorney General is pursuing allegations of incitement to racial hatred under the Race Relations Act, 1976, Mr Rees, the Home Secretary, said. Police are investigating some cases. The Commission for Racial Equality is conducting two formal inquiries and between 10 and 20 more are expected in coming months. Page 4

## Hooligans not in attendance

Evidence suggests that Saturday afternoon - afternoon - centre for young offenders are not being used to punish football hooligans as much as the Government would like, despite availability of the necessary regulations. Page 4

## Mixed classes prove beneficial

Children in their early years at secondary school gain academically and socially by being taught in all-ability classes rather than in scholastic achievement, a government-financed inquiry shows. It covered more than 2,000 pupils. Page 3

## Duchess and her baby doing well

The Duchess of Gloucester and her daughter, who was born on Saturday, are doing well in St Mary's Hospital, Paddington. The baby weighed 7lb 11oz. Page 2

## Paisley threat to Ulster talks

British officials believe the main threat to the success of political talks beginning in Ulster today is the uncertain attitude of the Rev Ian Paisley. But there is cautious hope that other politicians may achieve some agreement on a form of interim devolution, perhaps leading to Ulster assembly elections next year. The dominant issue will be the extent of powers that the Government will be prepared to devolve. Page 2

## Britain seeking IMF leeway

Discussions between the Treasury and IMF officials on the future of the British economy start today and may lead to a major concession. The talks will be held in a happier atmosphere than during the crisis nearly a year ago because of the rapid improvement in the balance of payments. The major concession likely to be sought by the Government is a raising of the ceiling on domestic credit expansion. Page 19

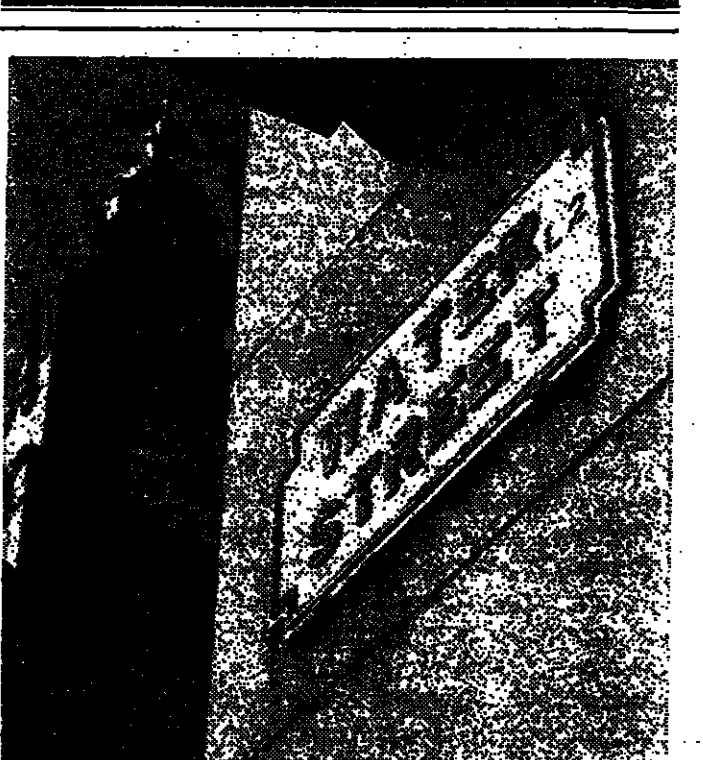
Fire picket threat: With no break in the firemen's strike, there were suggestions that picketing might be extended to vehicles supplying service fire-fighters. Page 2

France: M Barre's austerity budget passes through the National Assembly without the feared clash with the Gaullists over the defence estimates. Page 8

Saudi Arabia: Ten-page Special Report on the Eastern Province

Leader page 15  
Letters: On the Government pay policy, from Professor S. Pollard, and others; on the EEC fisheries regime, from Lord Boothby.  
Leading articles: Mr Sadat in the Knesset; Northern Ireland; Features, pages 14 and 16.  
Eric Mowbray and Edward Mortimer report from Jerusalem on reaction to President Sadat's visit; Laurence van der Post on the human face of South Africa; Profile of King Juan Carlos by William Chislett.  
Arts, page 12.  
John Percival on the temporary Dance 1; Barry Schwartz on the Royal Opera House; David Havers, Edward Grayson and Peter Shankland, reviewed by David Chandler.  
Obituary, page 17.  
The Right Rev George Snow; M Victor Frances; Mr Clive Goodwin; Sport, pages 10 and 11.  
Rugby Union: All Blacks end French tour on triumphant note; Tennis: Bjorn Borg beats John Lloyd in Wimbledon final; Football: Norman Fox on outsiders' claims for championship; Golf: David Graham joins Australian Open.  
Business News, pages 18-23.  
Financial Editor: Nudging doubts in the market; Accountants easing the burden on small companies; Travel: House, new directions; Hugh Stephenson: Learning to handle North Sea oil revenue; Business Diary in Europe; Trade talks with Poles and Russians; Management: Patricia Tisdall charts the evolution of a successful advertising campaign; Rodney Cowton reviews two studies of the managers' social condition.

Home News	2-4	Crossword	28	Sale Room	17
European News	8	Engagements	17	Sport	10, 11
Overseas News	5, 7, 9	Features	14, 16	TV & Radio	17
Agriculture	17	Letters	15, 20	Theatres, etc	17
Appointments	17, 22	Monday Book	17	25 Years Ago	17
Arts	12	Obituary	17	Universities	17
Business	18-23	Parliament	17	Weather	2
Church	17	Premium Bonds	17	Wills	17
Court	17	Property	24		



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## HOME NEWS

## Bright child not held back by sharing with less able, study shows

By Alan Hamilton

Children in their early years academically and socially by being taught in all-ability classes rather than being streamed according to their scholastic achievements, a government-financed report has found.

The study, carried out in 1975 by the National Foundation for Educational Research at a large comprehensive school at Banbury, Oxfordshire, found little evidence to suggest that bright children were held back by being in the same class as the less able. Low-ability pupils gained positive advantages from learning alongside the clever ones, the report says.

Researchers interviewed and observed more than 2,000 children at the school, and presented their findings to the Department of Education two years ago. The report is published in full for the first time today.

It concludes that putting children of all abilities in one class leads to social advantages without academic disadvantages. There is evidence of academic gain for low-ability children in mixed-ability classes, the report says.

Nevertheless, it concedes that a child's academic performance at the end of the first two years of secondary school is determined chiefly by factors outside school control. The main benefit of all-ability classes is the better social integration of the bright and not-so-bright.

There is no reliable criterion for streaming pupils who come straight from primary school, the report says. Assessments by primary school teachers are inconsistent, and tests of the

eleven-plus type do no more than deal out rough justice for many children.

"The effects of eleven-plus selection may be disappearing from public view with the demise of the bipartite system, but they may be no less important, even if less obvious, when they occur within a single comprehensive school."

At least, the report says, the consequences of a wrong assumption about a pupil's potential will be less serious if he enters an all-ability class. Teachers may be well acquainted with the idea of streaming, but it is a new experience for a child straight from primary school.

The report finds evidence that children tend to associate with others of their own ability, but much less so in the mixed-ability forms than in the streamed forms.

Low-ability children in mixed classes tended to put up a better academic showing than those in streamed classes. They are also found to have a more positive and favourable attitude towards school in general.

"There was little direct evidence to suggest that high ability pupils were achieving markedly differently in the two systems. For low-ability children there was a significant gain in the mixed-ability system, compared with the streamed."

The report speaks of apprehension among teachers, mainly on academic grounds, over teaching mixed-ability rather than streamed classes. But the fears were markedly less among staff who had first-hand experience of mixed-ability teaching.

**Ability Bumping: The Banbury Inquiry.** David Newbold (NFER Publishing, £4.75).

Like the time a visiting American left an expensive camera and 10 rolls of used film in an Avis car at Dover. Our staff there made sure it was delivered to London the next day, thereby rescuing some expensive equipment and lots of memories.

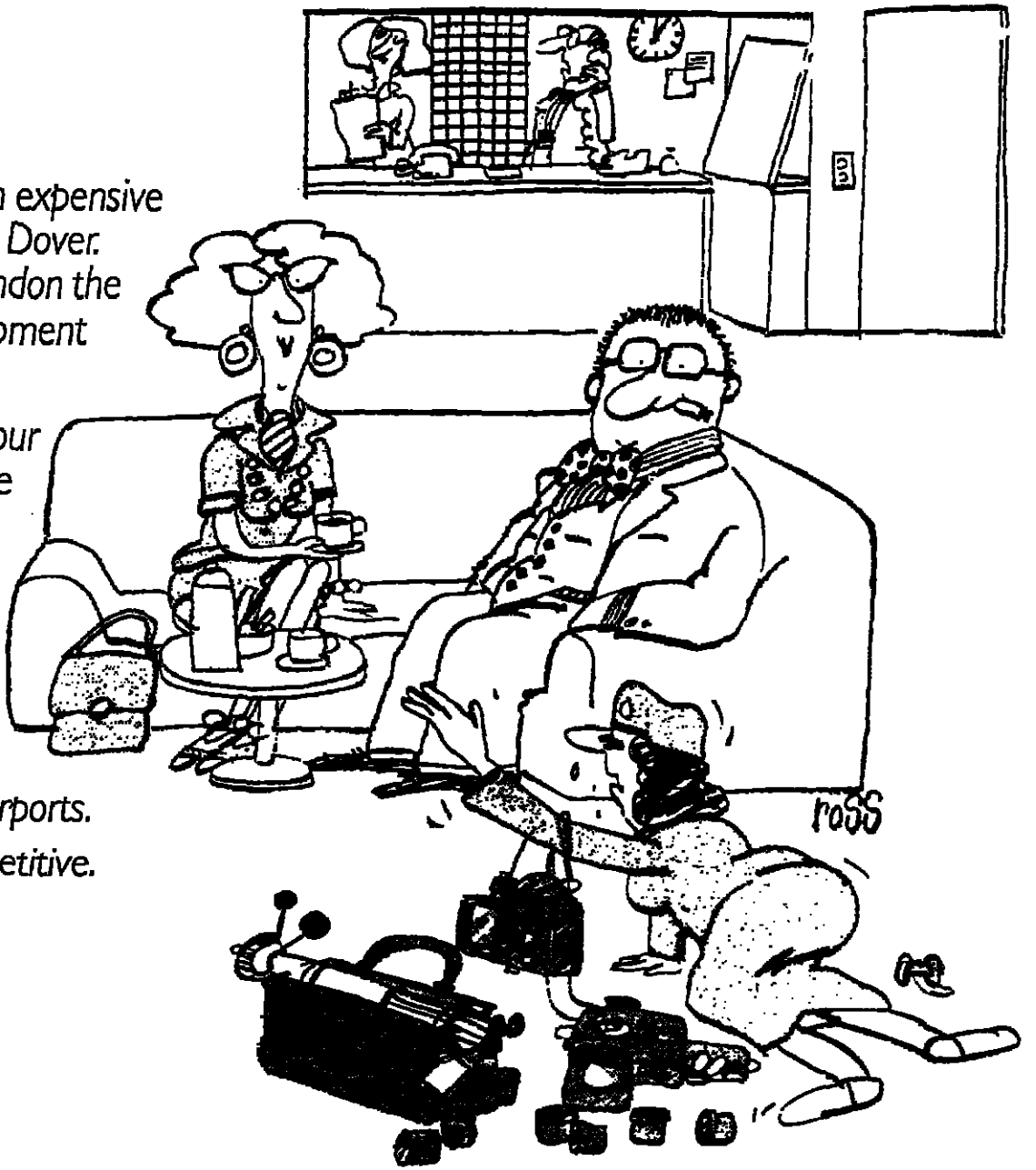
Like the time a customer turned up at our Glasgow airport desk. He was in a panic because he was late for a lecture he was giving at the University. No Avis car was available, so one of our Avis girls lent him her own for the evening.

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## Customers have benefited from cleaners' code

By Our Consumer Affairs

A voluntary code of practice agreed with the Association of British Launderers and Cleaners has greatly benefited consumers in its first year of operation, according to Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading.

Announcing the results of a monitoring exercise by the Office of Fair Trading to examine the effectiveness of the code, Mr Borrie said the proportion of complaints made against members had decreased. In 67 per cent of cases taken to the association's conciliation service, the outcome had been in favour of the customer.

Only 59 per cent of members

were displaying in their shops a statement of the code's provisions. Mr Borrie said he was not satisfied with that. He was also sorry that 16 per cent were continuing to limit their legal liability to pay compensation for lost or damaged items, in contradiction to the code.

But members had come out well from the monitoring survey compared with non-members. Mr Borrie said: "I am more inclined to give praise and encouragement to the association members for their cooperative attitude than to niggle about remaining shortcomings. The association have assured me of their determination to achieve 100 per cent compliance."

## The social wage last year totalled £1,460 a head

The social wage in 1976-77 amounted to an estimated £1,460 for each member of the United Kingdom working population, made up as follows: social security, £441; education and libraries, science and arts, £314; health and personal social services, £281; housing, £195; other environmental services, £104; law, order and protective services, £80; food and transport subsidies, including concessionary fares, £45.

**Treasury, Nov 10**  
Personal income: The change in personal disposable income between the last quarter of 1973 and the second quarter of 1977 was an increase of 75.5 per cent. Real personal disposable income, which takes account of changes in consumer prices, fell by 2.8 per cent.

**Treasury, Nov 10**  
Income tax: The numbers of people in the United Kingdom liable to income tax in the years from 1967 to 1977, taking married couples as separate individuals where appropriate, were (millions): 1967-68, 23.3; 1968-69, 24.25; 1969-70, 23.8; 1970-71, 23.15; 1971-72, 23.4; 1972-73, 21.75; 1973-74, 23.3; 1974-75, 24.5; 1975-76, 25.3; 1976-77, 25.65.

**Treasury, Nov 10**  
Prescription costs: The average cost in pence of a prescribed item dispensed through the National Health Service in each of the last seven years in England was: 1970, 67.2; 1971, 75.6; 1972, 82.2; 1973, 88.2; 1974, 99.3; 1975, 127.6; 1976, 154.

**Health, Nov 10**  
Housing subsidies: The amounts of housing subsidy, excluding rent rebates, paid by the Exchequer and local authorities to local authority housing revenue accounts and to new town development corporations in England and Wales in 1976-77 were: England, £904m exchequer subsidy, £146m rate fund contribution. Wales, £50m and £6m. The average amounts a dwelling were £218 in England and £200 in Wales.

**Environment, Nov 10**  
Members' pay: The basic annual salaries of parliamentarians in the EEC countries, expressed in US dollars, are: United Kingdom, 11,350; Belgium, 37,050; Denmark, 21,000; West Germany, 38,900; France, 40,750; Ireland, 11,000; Italy, 17,550; Luxembourg, 7,950; Netherlands, 33,100.

**Lord President, Nov 10**  
Windmills: A total of 750 aerogenerators on the most favourable sites could give an annual electricity output equal to that from a 1,320-megawatt nuclear power station. Those sites are dispersed, but where machines could be concentrated a density of two to three to the square mile might be achieved. The capital cost would be approximately £1,100m.

**Energy, Nov 14**  
State aid to parties: On November 10, 1977, £541,540 had been paid from the Commons vote in financial aid to opposition parties. It was made up as follows: Conservative Party, £22,468; Scottish National Party, £26,669; Plaid

## Answers in Parliament

A periodic digest of information given in parliamentary written replies with the sources and dates on which they appeared in Hansard.

**Cymru, £6,410: Social Democratic Labour Party, £3,492.**

**Lord President, Nov 15**  
Population: According to the latest population projections, based on provisional mid-1976 figures, the population will increase between 1976 and 1991 as follows: England, 477,000 (1 per cent); Scotland, 79,000 (1.5 per cent); Wales, 120,000 (4.3 per cent).

**Health and Social Security, Nov 11**  
In the past six months protection vessels of the Royal Navy and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland boarded 1,085 fishing vessels within British fishery limits. Of those, 996 were boardings of foreign vessels; and 24 foreign skippers were convicted of fishery offences.

**Defence, Nov 8**  
Diplomatic missions: The five largest British embassies in order of cost are: Washington (£5.7m); Paris (£3.6m); Bonn (£2.8m); Tokyo (£2.5m); Lagos (£2m).

The five largest in order of number of employees are: Washington, 312; New Delhi, 266; Paris, 235; Bonn, 200; Lagos, 143.

**Foreign, Nov 9**  
Gross domestic and national products: Gross domestic product per head in England, Scotland and Wales is estimated to have been £1,686, £1,602 and £1,455 respectively in 1975.

**Treasury, Nov 8**  
Income tax: The yield of income tax in 1977-78 is estimated at £17,300m. The changes in the Finance Act, 1977, reduced the estimate of the yield in 1977-78 by £1,800m, and the Chancellor's October 26 proposals by a further £970m.

**Treasury, Nov 9**  
European Community: The United Kingdom's net contribution to the European Community budget from September, 1975, to September, 1977, was £457.4m.

**Treasury, Nov 8**  
Local government expenditure: Expenditure by local authorities in England and Wales in 1977-78 will be about £90m (at November, 1976, prices).

**Environment, Nov 9**  
Local government staff: The number of full and part-time employees in local authorities in England and Wales, including police, on June 18, 1977, was 555,000. Comparable figures for each year since 1970 were: 1970, 2,162,000; 1971, 2,234,000; 1972, 2,340,000; 1973, 2,454,000; 1974, 2,412,500; 1975, 2,556,000; and 1976, 2,574,000.

**Environment, Nov 9**



## HOME NEWS

## Police investigating complaints of race hatred under new law

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

The Attorney General is taking further steps to investigate incidents of racial hatred referred to him since the Race Relations Act, 1976, came into force, Mr. Rees, Home Secretary, said on Saturday. Police are investigating some complaints.

Under the Act, the incidents which have been referred to him since the Act came into force, Mr. Rees, Home Secretary, said on Saturday. Police are investigating some complaints.

No prosecutions have yet been brought under that section.

The change from the Act of 1965, under which the prosecution had to prove intent, arose from the recommendations of the Scarman report on the Red Lion Square disorders in 1974.

Praising what he called "an excellent start" by the

Commission for Racial Equality, Mr. Rees disclosed more of its plans to conduct formal investigations. Where it discovers conduct that contravenes the Act, it is empowered to issue a non-discrimination notice.

The commission has announced two small formal inquiries into a restaurant in the Midlands and an employment agency in London. Mr. Rees says it hopes to begin a further 10 or 20 inquiries between now and next summer.

People who consider they have been the victims of conduct that the Act makes unlawful have the right to begin proceedings in a designated county court, sheriff court or industrial tribunal. The commission has powers to assist individuals in cases it considers justified.

## MP seeking a 'Domesday Book' on council land

By Our Planning Reporter

The waste of resources represented by derelict and unused land will receive particular emphasis this week.

Yesterday Mr. Hugh Rossi, an Opposition spokesman on the environment, announced his intention of compiling a survey with the cooperation, he hopes, of the Department of the Environment. Today the Royal Society will be addressed on the subject of derelict land, and tomorrow the Civic Trust will publish its own survey.

Mr. Rossi has invited the nationalized industries to tell him how much land they own which has not been developed and will not be developed in the next five years, their reasons for holding it, and the cost of interest charges. He is

also asking Mr. Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, if he will demand the same information from local authorities.

Mr. Rossi said yesterday that he was convinced public authorities were holding land because they believed it to be worth far more than it really was.

"Some people will say that local authorities should be able to hold on to land just in case they might need it in the future," he said. "This simply does not hold water. Taxpayers and ratepayers are footing the bill every year for huge interest charges on undeveloped land. These are the reasons I want to establish a new 'Domesday Book' of land in public ownership."

## £50,000 to curb salmon poachers

Salmon poaching has reached such proportions in the Southwest that the region's water authority is to spend £50,000 equipping its bailiffs with two-way radios, and may introduce dogs and handlers in an effort to catch the highly organized gangs.

The South West Water Authority, which covers more than 4,200 square miles from Dorset to Land's End, said yesterday that illegal catches of salmon in its area exceeded those made by licensed fishermen.

## Taverne move to back PR

A conference of Mr. Dick Taverne's Democratic Labour Party in Lincoln on Saturday decided to support any candidates who favour proportional representation.

The party said that if more than one proportional representation candidate was fighting a seat some should withdraw to avoid splitting the vote.

## Dearer newspaper

The price of the *Liverpool Echo* is going up by 1p to 9p today. Rising costs are blamed.

## Union threat of more television blackouts

More blackouts of BBC television programmes are planned by engineering workers who are taking action over a pay claim. On Saturday night BBC1 and BBC2 were disrupted for short periods, causing the loss of one of the corporation's most popular programmes, *The Generation Game*.

Mr. Anthony Hearn, general secretary of the Association of Broadcasting and Allied Staffs, which represents the engineers, said yesterday that the disruption would continue, but the union would not say when cuts would take place.

The engineers operate television and videotape equipment, and their sanctions are not affecting live programmes. During Saturday's cuts, which also blacked out *The Duchess of Duke Street* and *The Two Ronnies*, BBC1 screened an old Bob Hope film.

The ABS, which represents 14,000 of the BBC's 25,000 employees, is pressing for a big improvement in an £11m pay offer, which the corporation says will give basic increases of between 9 and 15 per cent, but which the union says will give only 5 per cent to some staff. The BBC insists that any increase in the offer would exceed the Government's pay guidelines.

Earlier this month the ABS blacked out live transmission of the state opening of Parliament and the Queen's Speech.

## Churches accused of harm in backing leadership

Mr. Louis Chase, one of the Notting Hill Carnival organizers, last night criticized support given by the Methodist Church and the British Council of Churches to "distorted and irresponsible leadership within the black community."

He added that the Government would be rational in giving up local community relations councils as a bad job.

He told a congregation at South Harrow Methodist Church that the black groups given most resources and status "interpret the struggle as making as much mischief as possible, a view which would commend itself to some sectors of the Socialist Workers' Party, which wants to use blacks as cannon fodder for their revolution."

Such groups did not fight racism in the most constructive ways, by building up the

## Burglary and shoplifting lead boys to energetic Saturday afternoons

## Few football hooligans at attendance centres

By Peter Evans  
Home Affairs Correspondent

Five football supporters puffed over press-ups and other exercises at Hendon Attendance Centre on Saturday instead of cheering their teams. None had been sent there because of hooliganism, although most confessed they had been in trouble at matches.

They were at the centre, being backed at by instructors in the gymnasium, for crimes such as burglary or shoplifting.

There is evidence that the attendance centres are not being used to punish hooliganism as much as the Government would like. Only last week Mr. Howell, the minister responsible for sport, urged greater use of them for that purpose.

No statistics were available to show how many youngsters are sent to centres for offences connected with hooliganism, but experts think only about 2 per cent of the 8,821 attendance centre orders made last year may have been for that offence.

Government efforts to get the centres used more extensively for hooligans are beginning to look rather desperate. At the start of the football season Mr. Rees, Home Secretary, brought into force provisions under the Criminal Law Act, 1977. They gave courts in one part of the country power to deal with breaches of attendance order made in another. That made it practicable for an order to be made for a juvenile who committed an offence at an away

match to go to an attendance centre in or near his home town.

The new power became available on September 8. Although the Hendon centre covers much of north London, including the Tottenham area, only one boy has been sent there for trouble at an away game.

Boys aged 10 to 16 can be sent by magistrates to attendance centres for not less than 12 hours and not more than 24. They qualify by committing an offence which, for an adult, would carry a term of imprisonment and serve the attendance order in two-hour periods on Saturdays.

Part of the effect of the sentence is said to be that by being at a centre on a Saturday doing gymnastics and handcrafts they will be kept out of trouble. Study that is not true. The Hendon centre is open on alternate Saturdays and boys can still go to midweek matches. One who left in a hurry on Saturday when the centre closed at 4

pm said he was off to reach the Tottenham match before it ended. Other boys told me that they had sneaked in to England midweek match with little without paying.

That was clearly a response to a challenge, for most do not seem to be short of money, judging by the amounts they put into pins for safe keeping during the afternoon. One showed me a digital watch. "It's only a cheap one, £25," he said.

One idea put forward by magistrates is that junior attendance centres like Hendon should also be available for older offenders. There is also pressure for the creation of centres for offenders aged between 17 and 21.

An objection to sending older youths to junior centres is that the police who form most of the staff at the centres would be changing their role. They are involved already in the treatment of young offenders through juvenile liaison schemes, but not in that way with older ones.

Another objection is that the sort of person sent to a senior centre might be penalized more constructively by receiving a community service order.

Yet attendance centres do have undoubted advantages. They are cheap, costing about £3,000 each a year to run, and people going there are not removed from everyday life into "academies of crime" during periods in custody.

Officers at Hendon vary in their hopes of how many of the boys will not get into trouble again. Inspector David Stannard, who runs the centre, believes that at best the success rate would be about 70 per cent and at worst about 50 per cent.

It is also a compliment in these days of penological pessimism to say that the centres as a whole do not seem to do any harm. That may be one reason why the Government has promised to provide more junior centres. The Home Office is studying crime figures to see whether centres for girls would be justified.

## Tribunal's president backs lay judges

Union-nominated judges hearing appeals concerning employment are concerned at criticism of some of their decisions from TUC quarters.

They sit at the Employment Appeal Tribunal set up under the Employment Protection Act, with lay judges from the management side and a High Court judge as chairman. They hear appeals from industrial tribunals relating to unfair dismissal, redundancy, equal pay and sex discrimination.

Mr. Justice Phillips, the tribunal's president, issued a statement emphasizing that knowledge of industrial relations was a qualification for appointment as a lay judge. Once assigned to a particular string of the appeal tribunal, the three members sit as "independent, impartial, uncommitted members," he said.

Although he made no direct reference to recent TUC criticism, the judge's statement is taken as an answer to union complaints about decisions by the tribunal, one in the equal pay sector and another granting an independence certificate to a non-TUC union.

The trouble arises from attitudes to the former National Industrial Relations Court, which was regarded by the union as "the bosses' court". Now that the employment law pendulum has swung the other way, many unions see the tribunal as the workers' court.

## Protests over BBC payments to youths

Questions are to be raised in the Commons over a disclosure that the BBC is to pay up to £30 each to youths who took part in the *Panorama* television programme last week on football violence.

Mr. Howell, minister responsible for sport, who has condemned the programme as "irresponsible," said yesterday that he was taking the

matter up with the BBC but could not comment further.

Mr. Walter Johnson, Labour MP for Derby South, who called the programme "virtually an incitement to violence," said he would table a question to Mr. Rees, Home Secretary, urging him to demand an explanation from Mr. Ian Trethowan, Director General of the BBC.

Mr. Charles Irving, Conservative MP for Cheltenham, said: "The BBC should be prosecuted if they pay these people."

The BBC said one boy will be paid £30 to cover three filmed interviews and loss of work, copyright and work carried out in his own home, using his own electricity. Two others will receive £15 each.



Mrs. Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition, wearing a senior officer's flying suit when she met men of 44 Parachute Brigade (Volunteers) at RAF Lyneham, Wiltshire, yesterday shortly before they jumped from an aircraft.

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## £2.75m project to restore valley

The Welsh Development Agency is to spend more than £2.75m on reclaiming 183 acres of abandoned coal mines, ironworks, foundries, brickworks, lime kilns and tin plate works at Blaenau Gwent.

New factories, houses, recreation areas and agricultural land will take their place. Waste tips will be regraded and contoured and the area grassed and planted. The agency says the scheme is the biggest in Wales.

## Pregnancy drug inquiry urged

An urgent government inquiry into the use of the drug Primidone in hormone pregnancy tests was called for yesterday by Mr. Jack Ashley, MP for Stock-on-Trent, South, in a second letter within six weeks to Mr. Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services.

Mr. Ashley said that although the drug can cause malformed babies, 1,000 prescriptions for it had been issued in the year ended last July.

## Spire to be rebuilt

A needle spire on the west front of Peterborough cathedral is to be rebuilt because of damage caused when it was struck by lightning during the summer.

## Civil Service told to drop discriminatory age limit

An industrial tribunal has told the Civil Service to end an age bar of 28 for executive posts, which is unfair to women with young children, it was disclosed yesterday. The decision, announced by the National Council for Civil Liberties, comes after a legal battle over 21 months.

The case against the Civil Service was filed in March, 1975, by Belinda Price, who was represented by the council. She was also supported by the Equal Opportunities Commission.

The civil liberties council said the Civil Service had accepted that the age limit of 28 on direct entry to executive officer posts discriminated against women, who were being put out of full-time employment in their twenties and early thirties, caring for young children. The service had argued, however, that the age limit was lawful because it was justified by the need to ensure an adequate intake of young executive officers.

The industrial tribunal had said: "The evidence now establishes that there are ways

## Mr Ennals urged to meet hospital staff

From Ronald Kershaw  
Barnsley

Mr. Mason, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and MP for Barnsley, yesterday asked his Cabinet colleague, Mr. Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, to intervene at Barnsley District General Hospital after allegations of a shortage of surgical instruments and equipment.

Mr. Ennals is to visit the hospital on Friday. It was stated a few days ago that all operations at the hospital other than emergencies would

## £360,000 saved by staff ideas

Staff suggestions for simpler procedures in the Department of Health and Social Security have saved at least £360,000, and probably more than twice that figure, according to an article in the November issue of *Management Services in Government*.

Mr. David Owen, a member of the department, gives two examples: a simpler procedure for meeting the needs of supplementary benefit claimants, and an amendment of the regulations governing time limits for maternity benefit claims.

*Management Services in Government* (Civil Service Department, Whitehall, London SW1A 2AZ. Offprints 4p a page).

be suspended for two weeks next month to sort out the instruments issue.

Mr. Mason acted after Barnsley Trades Council, representing 40,000 trade unionists, had decided to call for a public inquiry into alleged shortcomings at the new £12m hospital, involving instruments, ventilation and heating in operating theatres and the hearing aid department.

Trent Regional Health Authority has said that Mr. Ennals will not be meeting staff representatives at the hospital

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Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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A simple line drawing of a factory. It features a long, low building with a sawtooth roofline and three small, square windows. A tall, thin chimney stands to the right of the building. In front of the factory, a semi-truck is parked, facing left. The entire scene is rendered in a minimalist, sketchy style with black outlines on a white background.









## SADAT VISIT TO ISRAEL

## President gets ecstatic welcome from his enemies but Arabs remind him of their grievances

From Moshe Brilliant and news agency reporters Jerusalem, Nov 20

President Sadat landed at Ben-Gurion airport at 8 o'clock last night for his first personal encounter with his enemies of four years. A 21-gun salute boomed out and an army band played the Egyptian and Israeli national anthems.

Mr Sadat seemed solemn as he descended the gangway from the red and white Boeing 707, but soon he was smiling warmly and exchanging greetings as he moved among the welcoming throng of Israeli dignitaries.

President Katsir was first with a brisk handshake. Then came a beaming Mr Menachem Begin.

In the reception line were personages whom Mr Sadat had previously known only as distant antagonists.

"Madame," he told Mrs Golda Meir, the former Prime Minister, "I've waited many years for this moment."

The 79-year-old grandmother smiled back and said: "I've waited a long time to see you too."

Mr Sadat leaned forward as he spoke, and it looked as if he might be about to kiss her, but others watching the milling scene said he only shook her hand with particular warmth.

One of the first things he asked when he got off the aircraft was whether those waiting to welcome him included former General Ariel Sharon, who during the 1973 war led an Israeli counter-attack across the Suez Canal to within 63 miles of Cairo.

Mr Sharon, now Minister of Agriculture, was indeed at the airport. After shaking hands warmly with him, the President said: "I wanted to catch you

there," alluding to the general's thrust into the Egyptian heartland. Mr Sharon replied: "I'm glad to have you here."

President Sadat was overheard telling Mr Dayan, the Israeli Foreign Minister: "Dove or hawk, Moshe, it will be all right."

Mr Sadat also had a word for General Mordecai Gur, chief of the general staff, who had said last week that the President's move might be a cloak for another surprise military attack. He told him: "You see, I wasn't bluffing."

A fanfare of trumpets sounded as Mr Sadat climbed into a car with President Katsir for the drive over steep, winding roads to Jerusalem.

Streets along the presidential route in Jerusalem were jammed with cheering crowds. Whole families turned out, mothers holding infants aloft, to see the Egyptian leader.

President Sadat's press spokesman called the reception "incredible". Bells pealed out the tune "Getting to know you" when Mr Sadat arrived at the King David Hotel at 9.40 pm.

He waved to the cheering crowd—and went almost immediately into private talks with Mr Begin in his sixth-floor suite.

Half an hour later the Israeli Prime Minister emerged and told correspondents: "We had a very warm and very cordial conversation. You can say that we like each other."

Today Mr Begin and President Sadat had a working lunch together with other officials before going to the Knesset to make their speeches.

Mr Begin also summoned a special session of the Cabinet and reported on his talks with the Egyptian leader. He ob-

tained approval for what he proposed to say in Parliament.

President Sadat left his suite in the King David Hotel which overlooks the walled Old City early today and drove to the Temple Mount for a service in the silver-domed Al Aqsa mosque, the third most sacred shrine to Islam.

The mosque was half filled with about 1,500 men, many of them Egyptian and Israeli security agents who were conspicuous as they remained on their feet while the worshippers knelt and touched their foreheads on the floor.

The agents kept a close watch, mindful that King Abdullah of Jordan, grandfather of King Hussein, was murdered at that shrine in 1951 by Palestinian extremists after he had shown signs of trying to reach an accommodation with the Palestinians.

At the service, a qadi read a sermon in which he said abandoning Jerusalem was like abandoning Mecca. He urged full rights for the Palestinian people.

"We hope that President Sadat and his colleagues, Arab presidents and kings, will fulfil the hopes of the Palestinians in their land," the qadi said.

The President was cross-legged in his stonied feet on the carpeted floor swaying gently, fingering small green beaded prayer beads and raising his hands to the side of his face with numerous chants of "Allah is Great".

When he left the building he ran into a large, excited crowd of Jerusalem Arabs. "Palestine is Arab", some shouted. One woman pressed close to him and cried: "Don't forget our prisoners, Sadat. Our sons are being tortured."



President Sadat steps back after placing a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Jewish Soldier near the Knesset.

Others chanted slogans in his favour. "With our blood and soul we will sacrifice ourselves for you, Sadat", they shouted. "Long live Sadat."

Looking tired, Mr Sadat then crossed the plateau of the Temple Mount to the magnificent Dome of the Rock where a crowd of some 1,000 chanted: "Sadat, don't forget Palestine".

The President was expressionless and a chain of uniformed policemen prevented the crowd from surging forward.

Palestinian nationalists tried to organize a demonstration at the Church of the Holy Sepul-

chre, but 100 young protesters reached the shrine five minutes after the President had completed a 20-minute visit. The marchers chanted rhythmically: "Sadat, what do you want from us? We are against you. We don't want you here."

They scattered into the labyrinthine alleys of the ancient city as border police moved towards them with sub-machine guns at the ready. Some threw stones at security men. Two alleged ringleaders were detained but later released.

During the visit, the President was greeted by priests representing various churches with interests in the shrine.

Later Mr Begin took the President to the Yehud Veshem memorial to inspect grim exhibits recalling the Nazi concentration camps.

As they entered, Mr Gideon Hausner, director of the memorial, held out a yarmulka, or Jewish skull-cap, and asked President Sadat to cover his head since they were entering a Jewish religious shrine. President Sadat put it on and immediately removed it.

A similar incident involving Dr Waldheim, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, created ill-feeling and led to protests some time ago. Dr Waldheim made up for his

blunder by asking to be taken to a synagogue where he produced a skull cap from his pocket.

In this case the Israelis were more understanding and acknowledged that President Sadat could be in an awkward position if his photograph in a yarmulka was circulated through the Arab world.

Mr Sadat signed the visitors' book and stood to attention for a brief silence at the memorial near Mount Herzl.

A working dinner for Egyptian and Israeli leaders, followed by a meeting between Mr Begin and President Sadat, closed the day's programme.

## Mr Carter praises conciliatory spirit

Washington, Nov 20.—President Carter said today that the speeches by President Sadat and Mr Begin in Jerusalem showed a spirit of conciliation and contributed to the cause of peace.

Mr Carter's comment was reported by the White House after he had watched the whole of the proceedings in the Israeli Parliament on television.

Earlier Mr Carter attended an early morning service at the First Baptist Church. He offered a prayer asking God to bless the Egyptian-Israeli meeting and to move all parties in the Middle East towards a settlement.

He told reporters that he saw hope in the fact that President Sadat, Mr Begin and he were all devoutly religious men, and also because of a pledge he had exchanged with the two Middle East leaders that they would always pray for him and for their people.

He had been deeply touched when he saw on television how President Sadat had warmly greeted Mr Dayan, Israel's Foreign Minister, and the architect of Egypt's defeat in the 1967 war.—Reuters.

Vance praised: Mr Cyrus Vance, the United States Secretary of State, said in Puerto Rico that Mr Sadat's speech in the Knesset was an eloquent statement of the need for peace.

Kissinger view: Dr Kissinger, the former Secretary of State, said the visit could open a new era in the Middle East. "This is one of those occasions in history when one symbolic act can change the course of events", he said.

Jewish welcome: The American Jewish Congress welcomed Mr Sadat's address as an auspicious beginning of long-delayed conversations between the leader of the two nations.

Rabbi Arthur Herzberg, president of the congress, said the daring initiative taken by President Sadat and the warm and enthusiastic welcome extended to him by Israel marked a dramatic turning point.—"PI".

Grandchild born during speech: Cairo, Nov 20.—President Sadat became a grandfather today. His daughter gave birth to a baby girl in a Cairo hospital as the President was speaking before the Knesset.

Reliable sources said the President's wife followed the speech on radio while waiting at the bedside of their daughter.—Agence France-Press.

## France blocks EEC backing for Sadat mission

From Our Own Correspondent Brussels, Nov 20

France is reported to be blocking the issue of a joint statement by the Nine EEC member states welcoming President Sadat's peace mission to Israel.

The French apparently feel that until the outcome of the mission is known the Nine would be unwise to wax too enthusiastic about a venture that has been almost unanimously condemned in Arab capitals.

This caution reflects France's generally pro-Arab position in the Middle East

conflict and concern to protect traditionally close French links with Arab governments.

Some other EEC states are thought to share French misgivings, and the subject is expected to be raised at a meeting of EEC foreign ministers in Brussels on Tuesday.

Paris, Nov 20.—M Barre, the French Prime Minister, said in a radio interview tonight that France blocked the statement because it feared the EEC declaration might have been made too soon. But he added: "Who more than the French Government could be happy about anything which started moves towards peace?"—Reuters.

## Protests throughout the world

By Our Foreign Staff

Protests over President Sadat's visit continued throughout the weekend in capitals throughout the world. Demonstrations were reported in the following cities:

Delhi: Palestinian students throwing stones at the Egyptian Embassy yesterday. They smashed furniture and windows and tore down a portrait of President Sadat before police ejected them. Several arrests were made.

Moscow: Arab students demonstrated outside the Egyptian Embassy yesterday as the official Soviet press again voiced criticism of Egyptian policy.

Tokyo: About 20 Libyan diplomats and residents in Tokyo burnt the flag of the United Arab Republic yesterday. The red, white and black flag was adopted when Egypt, Libya and Syria formed a united republic in 1971.

Tanzania: The Libyan Charge d'Affaires in Madagascar also burnt the flag of the United Arab Republic yesterday.

London: A group of about 50 Libyan students and businessmen gathered at the Libyan Embassy in Kensington on Saturday night and burnt the UAR flag, shouting "Down with Sadat" and "Power to the people".

Earlier, about 200 Palestinians waving placards and chanting

protests picketed the Egyptian Embassy.

Buenos Aires: Libyan diplomats yesterday publicly burnt the UAR flag and one read a statement announcing that "in these moments when the Arab nation is facing a tragedy without equal in its contemporary or ancient history, the people of the Jamahiriya (Libyan Republic) have met in a special session to adopt various resolutions which will be issued at the opportune time."

Athens: Twelve Arab university students were deported yesterday after a protest at the Egyptian Embassy on Friday night which resulted in the death of one person and the wounding of 20 others, including Greeks.

## Jewish veterans pray for peace at Cenotaph

Jewish ex-servicemen attending their Remembrance Day service at the Cenotaph in London yesterday joined in a special prayer for peace in the Middle East.

Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth, called on the veterans to pray for successful deliberations between President Sadat and Mr Begin.

Mr Greville Janner, QC, Labour MP for Leicester, West, and a member of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, said after the service: "I think the reaction of British Jews to the Jerusalem talks is that we have here the beginning of peace and

that the ice, having been broken, cannot reform at the same temperature."

Mr Janner said Mr Sadat and Mr Begin were brave men who appeared to have formed a good personal relationship.

Mr David Crouch, Conservative MP for Canterbury, and chairman of the Anglo-Egyptian Parliamentary Group, said Mr Sadat's speech was the most important statement for peace in the Middle East since the establishment of Israel in 1947.

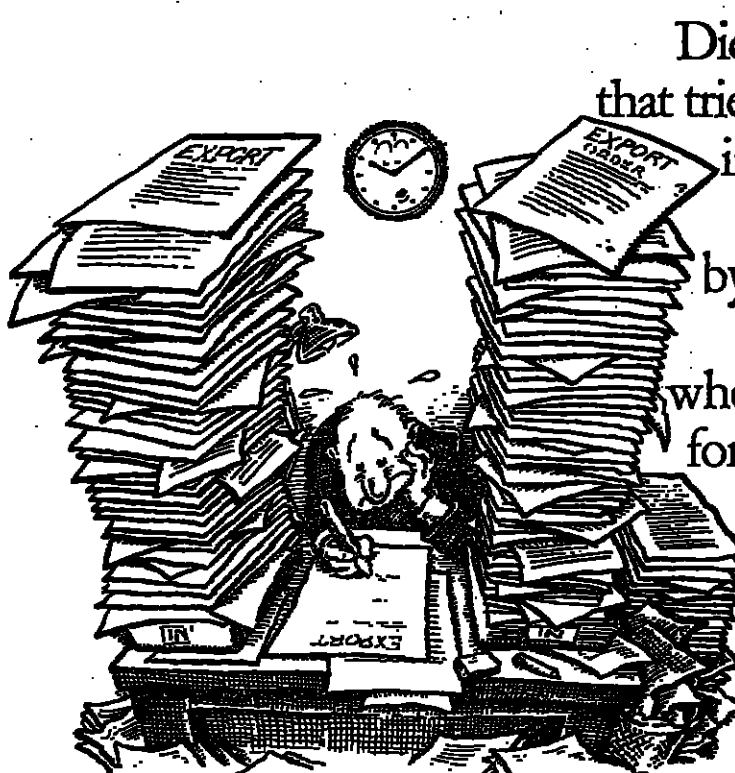
He forecast that the visit to Jerusalem would mark the breaking of the impasse between the Arabs and the Israelis.

## Grandchild born during speech

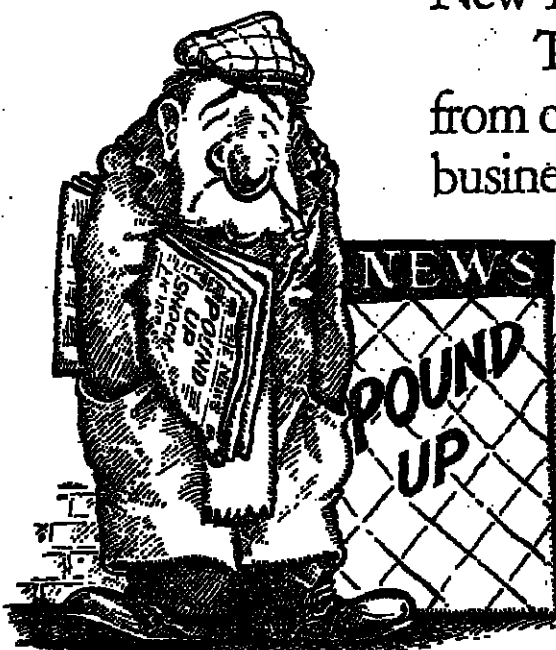
Cairo, Nov 20.—President Sadat became a grandfather today. His daughter gave birth to a baby girl in a Cairo hospital as the President was speaking before the Knesset.

Reliable sources said the President's wife followed the speech on radio while waiting at the bedside of their daughter.—Agence France-Press.

## IF YOU KNEW WHAT COULD GO WRONG WITH EXPORTING, YOU'D LEAVE IT TO SOMEONE ELSE.



We'll deal with time-consuming paperwork.



We can protect your currency.

Did you hear about the company that tried exporting Christmas puddings to Australia? They were finally cleared by customs on January 4th. Or the one about the man who insured his crystal decanters for sea and road transport? Only for a crane to fall on them at the docks. Or the businessman who fixed his construction contract in dollars? On his way back from New York, the pound shot up 7 cents. These are all typical tales of woe from companies new to the complex business of exporting.

And the saddest thing about them is that they could so easily have been avoided. If only companies would look for advice before they became involved, they'd be less likely to find themselves

in deep water.

At Barclays, we have 25 international branches throughout the UK as well as 1,700 around the world. So there's little we don't know about world-wide markets.

We can open your eyes to things that can befall you in foreign parts. And at the same time, help you to steer a safe passage for your goods. We can pinpoint places where your best opportunities lie, put you in touch with the right people, and check their credit-worthiness.

We can also give you inside information on things that normally only the locals know about: customs, currencies, insurance, terms of trade, government tariffs, loans and credit facilities.

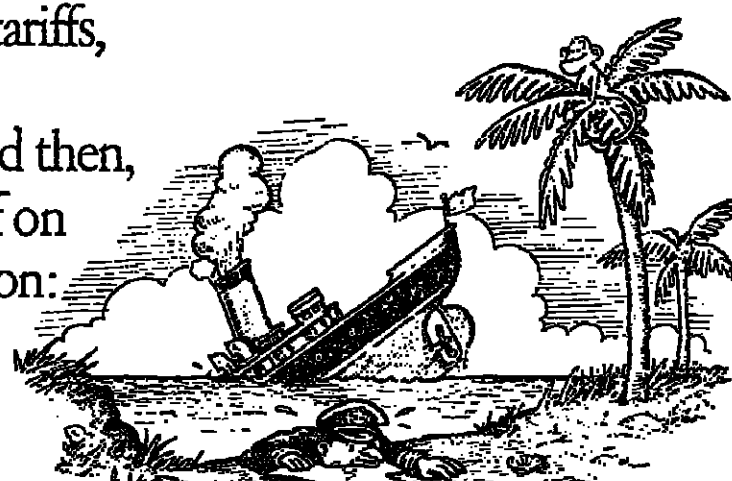
Before venturing abroad then, might we suggest you set off on a somewhat shorter expedition: To your local Barclays branch.



We can help settle your customs problems.



We'll make sure there's no misunderstanding.



We'll make sure you've got the right cover.

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## WEST EUROPE

# Liberals of Nine urge Westminster to pass European election Bill

From Michael Hornsby  
Brussels, Nov 20

The annual congress of the Federation of Liberal and Democratic Parties in the EEC, which includes the British Liberal Party, today called on the House of Commons to pass the European Assembly Bill "in the form recommended by the British Government".

Only by so doing, the declaration said, could the House ensure that direct elections to the European Parliament would be held next year as scheduled and that the British members elected to it would "reflect proportionately the vote of the British electorate in the political composition of the Assembly".

Speaking at a press conference after the adoption of the declaration, Mr David Steel, the leader of the Liberal Party, said that there was no doubt that the direct elections Bill would be approved in principle by the House of Commons this week. But the key factor was the subsequent decision which had to be taken on the voting method to be used in direct elections.

"If proportional representation is taken out, as a number of Labour and Conservative MPs want, that will delay the passage of the Bill, and Britain will not be ready to take part next year," Mr Steel said.

He would greatly deplore that, and he hoped that Britain's partners would "keep the pressure on" at this week's meeting of EEC foreign ministers.

Britain is now the only member state whose ability to meet next year's May-June target date for direct elections is in any doubt, both Denmark and France having overcome the constitutional and political difficulties they also once faced. The accepted legal position is that direct elections cannot be held unless all nine member states take part.

The Federation of Liberal and Democratic Parties, which was formed from 14 European parties in Stuttgart last March, concluded its three-day congress here by adopting a programme of basic principles on which to contest the first direct elections.

The programme clearly commits the Liberals to the kind of federated Europe, with eventually a central European government, which is anathema to the present Labour Government.

According to the manifesto, one of the first tasks of a directly elected Assembly should be to draw up a Bill of human and civil rights which could form the basis of a European constitution. Eventually the Assembly should control both the executive and the bureaucracy.

As immediate steps, the European Parliament should be given the final say in matters affecting the EEC budget and should be able to initiate legislation and to ratify treaties signed between the EEC and non-Community countries.

The manifesto enthusiastically supports the goal of economic and monetary union.

David Wood, page 15



Wreckage of the Portuguese airliner which crashed in Madeira.

## French budget is passed despite Gaullist doubts

From Our Own Correspondent  
Paris, Nov 20

Mr Barre's austerity budget for 1978 passed through the National Assembly early yesterday morning without the feared clash with the Gaullists over the defence estimates. It was in many ways a personal triumph for M Barre, the Prime Minister.

The Gaullists had refused to support the defence section of the budget when it first came up for debate a week earlier. They argued that the decision to scrap the building of a sixth nuclear submarine was to surrender France's independence in the field of defence.

The argument was reiterated on Friday night in the Assembly by M Michel Debré, a former Prime Minister under General de Gaulle and Defence

Minister under President Pompidou and an elder statesman of the Gaullist Party.

France, he said, would be endangered without the additional submarine. He accused the Government of altering France's strategic priorities.

But his rhetoric was no match for M Barre's stubborn defence of the Government's policies. The sixth submarine would be built with the least possible delay, he said, but he omitted to say when. The country was clearly going to have to be able to afford it.

So when the vote was taken on a show of hands, the defence estimates were passed. With this last hurdle cleared, the budget was adopted by 285 votes to 176.

## Vote to arm anti-terror police units

Hamburg, Nov 20.—The ruling Social Democratic Party at the close of its congress in Hamburg at the weekend voted to allow certain units of the West German security forces to be armed with sub-machine guns and hand grenades to combat terrorists whenever the occasion demanded the use of such weapons.

The delegates, however, decided not to give the police the specific right to shoot to kill in an emergency.

The opposition Christian Democrats have called for such a clause to be included in a proposed general law which would give the police forces of all the 10-Länder—Reuter

## Schmidt talks on trade with Poles

From Gert Spitzer  
Berlin, Nov 20

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, leaves tomorrow for Poland on a five-day visit, accompanied by his wife and representatives of industry, cultural bodies, and trade unions.

The visit had been postponed from an earlier date by mutual agreement when the uncertain fate of Herr Hans-Martin Schleyer, the kidnapped industrialist who was later murdered, and decisions on combating terrorism required the Chancellor's presence in Bonn.

Both Poland and West Germany emphasised the significance of the forthcoming talks.

In an interview broadcast in West Germany today, Mr Giersek, the Polish party leader,

spoke of new impulses in the development of peaceful relations between Poland and the Federal Republic.

During the Social Democratic Party congress in Hamburg, Herr Willy Brandt, the former Chancellor, emphasised the European significance of the visit and of German-Polish reconciliation and cooperation.

Official relations are as good as can be expected in the circumstances. But there are occasional problems. Last Friday, West German television showed the film *Three Days in Stern*, about the uprising of Polish dockworkers in 1971. Polish representatives in West Germany considered it in bad taste to show the film just before Herr Schmidt's visit.

Herr Schmidt and Mr Giersek are expected to discuss East-

West relations, the progress of talks on strategic arms limitations, and moves at the United Nations to combat terrorism.

Economic cooperation and the widening imbalance in Poland's trade with West Germany to the disadvantage of Poland are to figure high on the agenda.

In preparation for the meeting, detailed discussions had been held on further economic cooperation involving also small and medium enterprises, and concrete results are expected.

Poland's precarious economic situation makes economic co-operation with the Federal Republic its most important trading partner in the West, essentially.

## Thousands pay tribute to Gen Franco's memory

From William Chislett  
Madrid, Nov 20

Pouring rain did not dampen the spirits of tens of thousands of supporters of General Franco's ideas who gathered in Madrid today on the second anniversary of his death at an open-air mass for his soul.

The organisers claimed that about a million people had attended. In the Plaza Oriente, where Franco had made his last public speech shortly before his death, the crowd denounced the Government of Senor Suarez for dismantling the general's system.

Waving banners with such slogans as: "Carrillo to the firing squad" (Senor Santiago Carrillo is the Communist leader) and a red-and-yellow national flag, the assembled Francoists, young and old, in jeans and in fur coats, vented their anger on the new democratic Spain.

They applauded and shouted: "Franco, Franco" when the provincial head of the right-wing Fuerza Nueva, Senor Javier Alba, called for the resignation of the Government.

Senor José-Antonio Giron, the leader of the Civil War veterans' organization who was Minister of Labour after the war, said that history could be buried by royal decree. There was disorder, chaos, moral laxity, economic ruin and terrorism.

On Friday night tens of thousands of workers attended an open air rally in the rain to protest against the "cost of living, unemployment, dismissal of workers, repression and fascism". It was organized by the Communist-organized trade union federation Intersindical and went off quietly.

At a similar rally yesterday crowded marches took place in the city centre shouting slogans. A demonstration in Oporto yesterday in homage to the outgoing commander of the northern military region was less calm. Two bombs exploded under parked cars as the crowd gathered in the afternoon, without causing any injury. In scuffles with the police 13 people are reported to have been injured.

## 13 injured in Oporto demonstration

From Our Correspondent  
Lisbon, Nov 20

A fortnight's political tension in Portugal has been followed by an outburst of street demonstrations at the weekend. Within the past fortnight Dr Sá Carneiro, the president of the Social Democratic Party, resigned, and Dr Soares, the Prime Minister, threatened to resign if the opposition parties did not reach agreement on policy.

Before the end of the month, the outgoing Government of thousands of workers attended an open air rally in the rain to protest against the "cost of living, unemployment, dismissal of workers, repression and fascism". It was organized by the Communist-organized trade union federation Intersindical and went off quietly.

At a similar rally yesterday crowded marches took place in the city centre shouting slogans. A demonstration in Oporto yesterday in homage to the outgoing commander of the northern military region was less calm. Two bombs exploded under parked cars as the crowd gathered in the afternoon, without causing any injury. In scuffles with the police 13 people are reported to have been injured.

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Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



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38/71

## COMPANY NOTICES

## Gold Fields

Issue of  
26,245,168 Ordinary Shares  
of 25p each  
at 155p per share

Holders of Ordinary shares are reminded that if they wish to take up the new Ordinary shares now being offered they must ensure that by 3.00 p.m. on Friday, 25th November, 1977, they lodge their Provisional Allotment Letter either with Lloyds Bank Limited, Registrar's Department, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex BN12 6DA (by post or by hand) or with Lloyds Bank Limited, Registrar's Department, Issue Section, 111, Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1AU (by hand only) together with a remittance of 155p for each new Ordinary share.

**Consolidated Gold Fields Limited**  
40 Moorgate, London, EC2A 3GD.

21st November, 1977

## CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

## DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

Ministry of Hydraulic Engineering,  
Land Development and the Environment  
Directorate of Hydraulic Engineering

## INTERNATIONAL INVITATION TO TENDER

International tenders are invited for the supply and installation of electro-mechanical and remote control equipment for the water supply system drawing water from light (8) wells at Hamis, to the east of the city of Algiers.

Interested companies may obtain tender specifications from DIRECTION DES PROJETS ET DES REALISATIONS HYDRAULIQUES, BP NO. 34, BIRMANDREIS, ALGERIE.

Tenders accompanied by the necessary documentation should be sent to Monsieur le Directeur des Projets et des Realisations Hydrauliques at the above address within twenty-one (21) days of the date of publication of this notice.

Bidders will be bound by their tenders for a period of 90 days.

## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

Accept tenders for the public adjudication for aerial spraying operation on 850 thousand feddan of cotton subject to increase or decrease by 15% for the agricultural season 1978, of which envelopes will be opened at 12 a.m. on Saturday, 17 December, 1977, at the office of the General Controller of Purchase and Stores Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Dokki.

Copy price of this adjudication conditions (which does not include the mail cost) is 10 Egyptian pounds.

Applications should be submitted on 180 millim stamped papers.

## LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of the Companies Act, 1948 (No. 26 of 1948) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1963 (No. 10 of 1963) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1977 (No. 10 of 1977) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1978 (No. 10 of 1978) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1979 (No. 10 of 1979) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1980 (No. 10 of 1980) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1981 (No. 10 of 1981) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1982 (No. 10 of 1982) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1983 (No. 10 of 1983) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1984 (No. 10 of 1984) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1985 (No. 10 of 1985) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1986 (No. 10 of 1986) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1987 (No. 10 of 1987) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1988 (No. 10 of 1988) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1989 (No. 10 of 1989) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1990 (No. 10 of 1990) and of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1991 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## OVERSEAS

## Mr Smith expected to admit black leaders into Cabinet

From Frederick Cleary Salisbury, Nov 20

Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, is expected to offer far-reaching changes to the constitution to bring African leaders into his administration when he sets out later this week to seek an internal settlement.

Asked at the weekend if he had formally rejected the Anglo-American proposals as outlined by Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, and Mr Andrew Young, the United States representative at the United Nations in Salisbury on September 1, Mr Smith replied that they had been universally rejected by Rhodesians.

"Let us, therefore, be realistic," he said in an interview. "We cannot sit by and allow things to continue in a vacuum. So as I said on Friday night (at a Rhodesian Front function in Umtali) I believe the time is ripe for Rhodesians to get on with the task now and settle our problems."

Experience has shown us that when outsiders have tried to help us with our constitutional problems the exercise fails. Other members of the Rhodesian Front have been pretty vocal with their advice by shouting, 'Don't try and force your views on others'. Surely they are not trying to suggest that this applied to everyone

else in the world but not to Rhodesians."

He added: "New initiatives have started and I anticipate that serious decisions will be made during this coming week."

Mr Smith has worked in the past week to bring together the various nationalist groups: the United African National Council, led by Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the African National Council, led by the Rev Ndabamangwe Sithole, and the Zimbabwe United People's Organisation, headed by Senator Chief Chirau.

He might hold a referendum to establish who is the acceptable black leader and negotiate from there for a majority-rule government. Or he might bring several of the black leaders into his Cabinet with full executive powers and enact legislation cancelling the existing discriminatory laws. Flights suspended: The Portuguese Airline TAP has stopped its direct flights into and out of Rhodesia, it was announced in Salisbury today. —Agence France-Press.

## Mrs Gandhi fails to win struggle for top party post

From Richard Wigg Delhi, Nov 20

After six weeks of acrimonious manoeuvring, supporters of Mrs Indira Gandhi abandoned this weekend their attempt to have the former Prime Minister handed the presidency of the Congress Party on a silver platter.

It marked another setback in Mrs Gandhi's attempted comeback. Yesterday, before the party leaders called on her as the celebrated 55th birthday of her principal followers had gone to Mr Brahmananda Reddy, the party president, to tell him they had decided to give up unconditionally the attempt to oust him from office. Last month he had talked of Mrs Gandhi being swept into office with an overwhelming party vote.

Mr Reddy, who was Mrs Gandhi's candidate for the highest party post after the March general election debacle, issued a statement which refers to her merely as "one of our respected leaders" whose advice on party matters would receive "due consideration". There was no longer any talk of her preeminence.

What made matters worse for Mrs Gandhi, it seems, was that she and her closest supporters were still wanting a showdown with Mr Reddy though the rest of her camp had decided it was better to make peace with him.

The campaign Mrs Gandhi launched in the wake of her arrest last month first gathered momentum after a successful barnstorming tour through Gujarat state. Then it ran into deep trouble in two southern states as anti-Gandhi demonstrations led to rioting and deaths. The former Prime Minister could plainly not claim any more to be an indispensable vote-getter.

This is the main reason why leaders in the Congress camp have opted to return to the fold, for no less than six state legislative elections are due in February and March. Meanwhile, Mrs Gandhi was today still keeping the country guessing whether she intended to appear tomorrow and Wednesday before the commission of inquiry under Mr Justice Shah which is investigating the excesses of the emergency period.

## Amin threat to Americans living in Uganda

From Our Correspondent Nairobi, Nov 20

President Amin today threatened to take unspecified retaliatory action against Americans in Uganda if an anti-Ugandan campaign in the United States leads to attacks on Uganda's missions in New York and Washington.

He has been angered by campaigns aimed at cutting trade between the United States and Uganda, and said some Ugandan helicopters had been seized in America.

President Amin, according to Uganda radio, said these moves resulted from the "malicious propaganda" of a number of former Ugandan ministers and officials, who were wanted, dead or alive, to answer criminal charges in Uganda.

## Cyclone kills 240 along east coast of India

Hyderabad, Nov 20.—A tropical cyclone, which lashed coastal areas of the South Indian state of Andhra Pradesh yesterday, killed at least 240 people, it was announced tonight.

The heaviest death toll was in the Guntur district, 200 miles south-east of Hyderabad, on the Bay of Bengal, where 203 people died, the Samachar news agency reported. In the town of Guntur more than 100,000 people were left homeless.

The coastal city of Machilipatnam was hit by 12ft waves whipped up by 65 mph winds, and widespread damage was caused to property and standing crops further inland. Several parts of Machilipatnam were submerged under two feet of water. —Reuters.

## Prisoners of conscience



## Indonesia: Miss Sukijah

By David Watts

Although it is a cliché that innocents are often swept into political upheavals, there can be few examples as telling as the case of Miss Sukijah, who was 13 years old when she was arrested during the abortive Indonesian coup of 1965. She has spent the last 12 years in detention without trial.

The coup attempt was planned by several middle-ranking army officers against their leadership. These officers had established their headquarters at a paramilitary training ground at Lubang Buaya on the outskirts of Jakarta, which was being used by various left-wing and nationalist organizations. Some women and girls were attending training courses there.

During the coup six army generals were killed and their mutilated bodies were found at Lubang Buaya. The women at the camp were blamed by the authorities for these alleged atrocities. There is no evidence, however, that they were involved.

The new army leadership, under General Soearto, quickly

crushed the coup attempt and brought the situation under control, accusing the Indonesian Communist Party of being responsible for it. Hundreds of thousands of people were arrested and killed during the ensuing months.

Anyone who was at Lubang Buaya on the night in question, including Miss Sukijah, was considered to be deeply implicated in the coup. Yet the Indonesians have never rested such allegations in open court.

Miss Sukijah comes from a poor family and has only a primary education. She was not connected with any political organization but was present at Lubang Buaya on the night of September 30, 1965. At the time of her arrest she was an outgoing child and insisted on going for training at Lubang Buaya with a group of members of the People's Youth movement, even though she was too young.

Her trauma over her arrest was intensified by the fact that for the first few months of her detention in Buldik Duri prison in Jakarta she was kept isolated from other women prisoners. She was completely unaware of the reason for her arrest and had no comprehension of the political events in which she had been swept up.

Miss Sukijah is now at Plannungan women's detention camp in central Java, having been transferred there in 1971. Last month David Jenkins, Jakarta correspondent of the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, described his visit to Plannungan. Of Miss Sukijah he wrote: "Politically and utterly ingenuous, Sukijah has spent almost half her life in prison because no one, it seems, has ever bothered to review her case."

She is one of an estimated 2,000 women detainees in Indonesia out of a total variously estimated at between 55,000 and 100,000.

## Complaint by banned editor is upheld

From Our Own Correspondent Johannesburg, Nov 20

The South African Press Council today ruled in favour of a complaint by Mr Donald Woods, banned editor of the East London *Daily Dispatch*, against the Cape Town newspaper *Die Burger*.

The council found that a headline on a report in *Die Burger* of September 19 concerning the late Steve Biko was misleading and that the paper should have published a correction immediately after receiving the complaint from Mr Woods.

The report on the paper's front page bore the headline: "Corpses and blood drenched in Biko pamphlet." It stated that a pamphlet referring to the burning down of houses, corpses in the streets and wounded and bleeding people had led to Biko's detention. It added that *Die Burger* had been shown the pamphlet by Mr James Kruger, the Minister of Justice.

However, Mr Woods immediately complained that the headline was grossly misleading in that it created the impression that a minister's allegation (unproved) of a Biko connection with an anonymous pamphlet was established fact instead of simply an ex-parte statement.

As Mr Woods is restricted to East London under his banning order he was unable to attend the council's hearing. He was represented by a lawyer, Mr Kelsey Stuart.

World interest in case surprises S Africans  
Biko family's lawyer scores in a formidable task

From Nicholas Ashford Johannesburg, Nov 20

Until his death in police custody two months ago, few South African whites had ever heard of Steve Biko, the founder and inspiration of the country's Black Consciousness movement.

But now, at the beginning of the second week of the inquest into his death, his name has become a household word. Every day last week English and Afrikaans newspapers provided wide coverage of the inquest. The general election, which to a large extent was brought about by the worldwide outcry over Biko's death, has become a side issue.

Foreign interest in the case has surprised even those South Africans who were aware that Biko was better known abroad than in his own country. Every day tens of thousands of words are filed to overseas newspapers by the 40 or so foreign journalists covering the inquest.

Outside the court television teams from half a dozen countries wait in the shade for the proceedings to end so they can snatch a quick shot of members of the Biko family, the formidable array of the security police witnesses or members of the five legal teams involved in the case.

Two leading lawyers from Britain and the United States are present as observers. They are Sir David Napley, the immediate past president of the Law Society, and Mr Louis

Pollack, Dean of Pennsylvania's Law School.

The surroundings for such a dramatic and highly publicized inquest are surprisingly drab. The nineteenth-century synagogue, scene of many past political trials, is in need of a lick of paint and a ventilation system.

As the outside temperature climbs to around 90°F each day, the two hundred spectators inside the court, most of them black, begin to look uncomfortable. For many of the spectators the proceedings are almost incomprehensible. The acoustics are so bad that only people in the first few rows can hear what is being said. Furthermore, most of the proceedings are in Afrikaans, which is the first language of the policemen involved in the case but which many blacks understand with difficulty. Including Biko's widow and other members of his family who are accompanied by an interpreter.

Mr Sydney Kentridge, counsel for the Biko family, has attempted to overcome this problem by insisting on carrying out his cross-examination in English. The replies are in Afrikaans, but for the sake of his client (and the foreign press) he skillfully manages to encapsulate in each of his questions the answer he had been given to the preceding one.

There can be little doubt that Mr Kentridge has been the star performer of the inquest so far. Eloquent, incisive,

never at a loss for a word, he has skillfully interrogated Biko's interrogators about what happened during the last 25 days of his life while he was held in police custody.

The task facing him is a formidable one, perhaps even impossible. For if, as he has suggested, there has been a "cover-up" of the circumstances surrounding Biko's death, he has to demolish the carefully orchestrated evidence of the police witnesses. And he must do it in such a way as to convince the presiding magistrate, Mr Martinus Prins who despite the impartiality he has shown so far, is a state employee whose ultimate superior is Mr James Kruger, the Minister of Justice and Police.

Mr Kentridge's problem is that the only people who had contact with Biko before his death are security policemen, prison warders and doctors, all of whom could have reasons for wanting to conceal the exact circumstances of his death. He is unable to call two of Biko's colleagues who might be able to give an alternative viewpoint because they are both being detained under section 6 of the Terrorism Act.

He has, however, managed to manage a number of significant breaches in the police defences.

Next week it is the turn of the three doctors who examined Biko before his death to give evidence. They are likely to face very stiff cross-examination by Mr Kentridge.

## Mr Vance to appease vexed S Americans

From Patrick Brogan Washington, Nov 20

Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, was setting out for South America today, to visit Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela and discuss human rights, nuclear non-proliferation and oil prices.

President Carter was to have visited Venezuela and Brazil on his trip postponed two weeks ago because of the continuing debate in Washington on the Energy Bill. Mr Vance is going instead to South America. The President will visit the African, Asian and European countries on the last immediately after Christmas, and will probably visit South America some time later.

Relations between the United States and various South American military dictatorships have been cool since Mr Carter took office because of his repeated criticisms of their violations of human rights. The Americans claim that Mr Carter's public utterances and private exhortations have born

fruit and that things have improved in a number of countries.

Whether this is true is a matter for dispute. It is at any rate clear that the United States now wants to restore good relations with its southern neighbours, notably Brazil. The Brazilians had an additional source of complaint against President Carter: they were particularly offended by his attempts early this year to visit the West Germans selling them nuclear power plants and technology.

Last week, the United States lifted the ban on the sale of enriched uranium to Brazil and Mr Vance will doubtless do his best to soothe any remaining ruffled feathers there. He may raise the question of human rights in Argentina: the has been given a list of more than 7,000 people who are missing there. In Venezuela, he will discuss oil prices. That country is one of the United States' principal oil suppliers.

## Czech dissidents penance

Vienna, Nov 20.—Mr Ota

Ornest, aged 64, a dissident Czechoslovak theatre director sentenced to three and a half years in jail for publishing manuscripts abroad, performed public penance on television on Saturday, criticising Amnesty International and Western human rights speeches at the recent Belgrade conference, dissidents said.

Moscow: Mrs Valentina

Poladze, aged 52, a Georgian member of the Helsinki Human Rights Group, has been arrested by the Soviet authorities, bringing the number of imprisoned members to 13, dissidents said. Release expected: Professor Yuri Orlov, the Russian physicist held in jail since February, should soon be released under an amnesty granted by Mr Brezhnev, according to Mr John Macdonald, QC, who headed the campaign in Britain for his release.

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DAY BOOK

ieder

the heart-searching of the Christ-burning of the "Mormonism" one could "indefinitely" in the "latter" in "Jagerlid" there and elsewhere a surprising degree of notes hit with there sounded as secure as a wish. Yet it would have honest not to mention there was much the broken below par-units, long notes sharp, bows distorted out on in the middle and a tendency on the consonant that in some places

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our

opulence at large. The man was: did Lieutenant Sir William Gordon, lying dead at the foot of the Prince of Wales Hotel, running the bank, a number of guests at this country house party? Or was he enticed to his death, as alleged? This reconstruction of the story and blow-by-blow account of the action in which Sir William makes entralling re-

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a card player, however, little doubt that Gordon was guilty. He was a cheat, but he had the advantage of being a member of the community in life of a very low attitude to one's word, which is in line with the charges that he had the stakes of the game. I believe the witness saw him do it. I may say that the attorney involved was not a member of the whole thing, and that the whole thing was handled in a very hasty manner, but in a very few days of the day it was handled.

**David Spanik**

lent drama

Mr. John Emery  
Mr. Peter Jones  
Mr. Michael R.  
Mr. Michael York

[illegible]

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Two reports from Jerusalem on reaction to the historic visit to Israel by President Sadat of Egypt

# Breaking the barriers of hatred in the Middle East

Whatever the immediate outcome of the Sadat-Begin talks, almost everyone I have spoken to in Jerusalem this weekend says that the Middle East confrontation will never be the same again.

Eric Moonman

While there are substantial political divisions between Israel and the Arab states on such questions as the right of Israel to exist within secure borders, the placement of the Palestinian refugees and the level of military deployment, the critical difficulty has always been the psychological barriers which the past 30 years and four wars have built up. Egyptians and Israelis think of each other in terms of caricature, a state of affairs hardly to be wondered at as each has been fed a diet of propaganda.

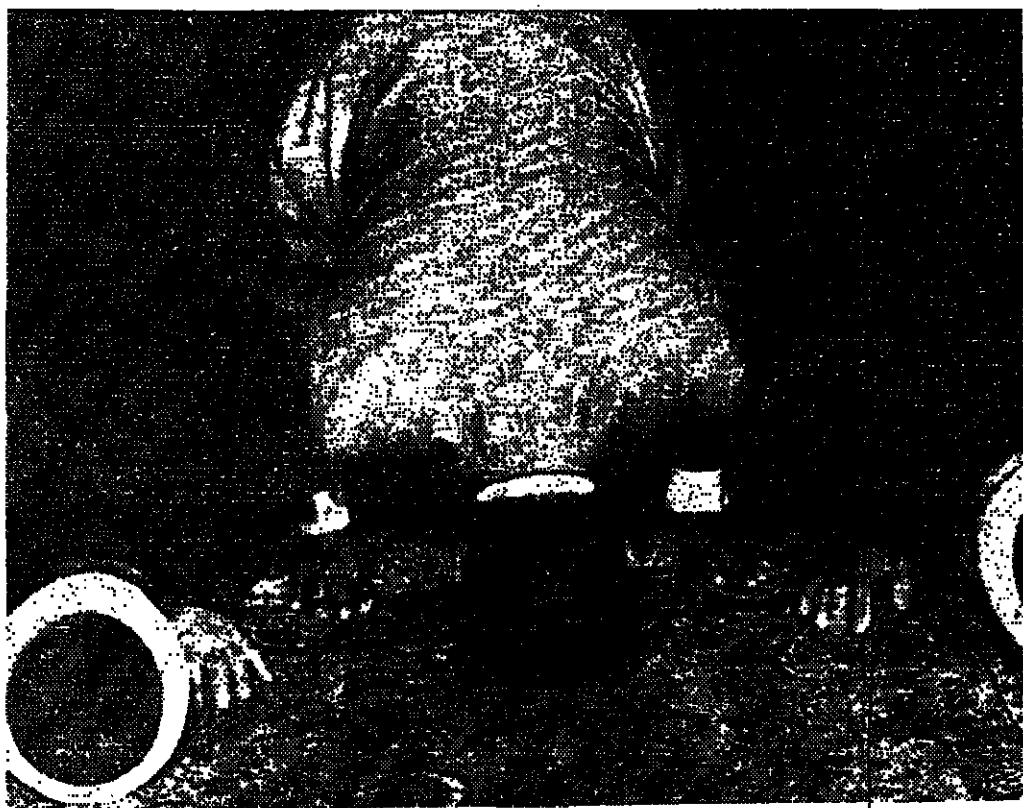
In particular the Palestine Liberation Organization's public relations machine, which took over where the Nazis left off in urging the destruction of the Jewish people, is crude and singularly unimaginative. It has succeeded in obscuring not only the Arab peoples but also for a large part of the world the fact that Israel is a tiny country in a vast continent of Arab states, that her 3,000,000 people form a mere 3 per cent of the total Arab population of the region.

Israel, for her part, has been reluctant to trust any previous attempt to initiate a compromise. She could not shake off the suspicions which were the result of the sufferings of her people in the 1930s and the earlier pogroms as illustrated so hauntingly in the museum at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, which President Sadat has now seen for himself. Thus the body machine has worked in both directions.

Within the past four days in Israel there has been an emotional conflict between the optimists and the cynics. Initially President Sadat's visit caused some apprehension. A warning by the Chief of Staff, General Mordechai Gur, of possible tricks by the Egyptians received both sympathy and understanding. But by the time Mr Sadat's plane touched down on Saturday night at Ben-Gurion airport, the Israelis were back to believing in miracles.

To the Israeli man-in-the-street the politicians had so far failed to resolve the dilemmas on the nation's security. A new approach was needed. Yosef Goebl, in Friday's *Jerusalem Post*, said: "There is a deep desire to believe that what has eluded plodding diplomats and unimaginative politicians over three decades will be vouchsafed us in one fell swoop by a miracle."

But miracles apart, there are some hard political issues involved in the top level meeting which ends today. Both Mr Sadat and Mr Begin have taken enormous risks with their own people. Preparations for such a meeting have proceeded privately for some months, hence the importance of Mr Begin's visit to Roumania to see President Ceausescu. Yet the initiative in publicly speaking out was Mr Sadat's, and this was courageous. It enabled the politicians to break out of the stalemate which had gripped them. Mr Begin replied quickly and courteously in the affirmative. It struck the right note. It made



President Sadat, flanked by Muslim leaders, prays at the El Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.

Dr Kissinger's comment that the failure of Mr Sadat's visit would "pose the gravest of dangers to the whole peace-making process" seem futile and even sour.

Mr Sadat is not meddling. He knows precisely what he is doing. He has prepared for this moment and he was not to be diverted. For instance, when he spoke on the same day that Israel launched a serious retaliatory raid against the terrorists in Lebanon, he declined to condemn Israel. Indeed he ignored the whole question of the Israeli-Lebanese border.

The only cynicism I have met in this quasi-frenetic atmosphere is the feeling that both men needed the typical politician's diversionary tactics favoured by Presidents Eisenhower and Johnson: to travel abroad or to receive a guest when your domestic economy is rocky. This might well apply, as the economic viability of both nations looks dismal, although Israel's trade gap has now been partially closed and the austerity measures have checked the flow of imports. But it can be only part of the

story. If we are to dabble in the area of motivation at all, then the personalities of the two men are perhaps more revealing. Mr Begin and President Sadat are more pragmatic and compromising than their political postures have hitherto led anyone to believe.

Mr Begin impressed me at a meeting I had with him last Friday as having a quiet, calm and dignified approach to the talks. "We must avoid becoming over-optimistic, but the power to talk with your adversaries across a table is what I've been elected for," he declared.

So what does it all add up to? Three things.

1. That such moves and initiatives for top-level talks pass the decision-making back to where it belongs, to the actual parties in the dispute. It places the role of the United Nations and even of the big powers in perspective. No one should imagine that an automatic bulwark majority of some 60 Arab-African votes at the United Nations against Israel would ever encourage that country to take account of predictable resolu-

tions revealing more humbug than wisdom.

2. That while an important shifting of ground can hardly be expected to flow from these talks, it seems inevitable that the dialogue will be maintained, and will continue with other Arab statesmen in and outside Israel.

3. That the politicians of both countries have moved in line with their people in the search for peace. As one of the Egyptian party for whom I gave up my bed in the King David Hotel on Friday said, both leaders are taking physical risks in pursuing the talks. Mr Begin is far from well and is obviously under strain, while Mr Sadat has to look carefully at one or two of his Arab neighbours to see that they do not move against him.

Yet perhaps it is the very nature of such risk-taking by both men that commends these initiatives to their peoples and to all caring people in the rest of the world.

The author is Labour MP for Basildon.  
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## A 'dream come true' may help to end a nightmare

"Finch me and I'll wake up." This headline from the *Jerusalem Post* perfectly summed the mood in Israel this extraordinary weekend. One wonders if President Sadat can have realized, when he announced his willingness to come to Israel 11 days ago, apparently as a gesture of defiance, how many Israeli dreams he was going to make come true.

In vain do more thoughtful Israelis try to remind themselves that nothing is settled yet that all the substantive issues of the Arab-Israeli conflict remain unresolved. For the moment everything is overwhelmed by the euphoric feeling of release from the strange isolation in which Israelis have lived for the 29 years of their state's existence.

Even the visiting correspondent, hard-bitten analyst though he may think himself, pro-Arab apologist though he may have been labelled, cannot easily avoid being caught up in this emotion. A series of apparently banal events takes on a huge symbolic significance.

A Boeing 727, clearly labelled "Arab Republic of Egypt", taxis gently up to the end of a waiting red carpet. The air terminal is festooned with Egyptian flags. So what? I saw the same scene at the same airport at Damascus airport only two days before. But when the geyser of the aircraft door, we are suddenly in a different world.

The Egyptian President stands blinking (with deep emotion or from simple nervousness) while the band plays the Israeli hymn, *Ha-Tikva*. He inspects the crowd with a look of honour. He shakes hands with every member of the Israeli Cabinet, puts an arm round Mr Moshe Dayan's shoulder and stoops to give Mrs Golda Meir, the former Prime Minister, what looks very much like an embrace.

He rides side by side with the Israeli President in an official car, arriving at the King David Hotel and Mr Menachem Begin, Israel's Prime Minister, reviled by Arabs for 30 years as the man who

ordered the Deir Yassin massacre, pays him a courtesy call in his suite. These things most ordinary Israelis watched on their television sets on Saturday night, not feeling quite sure that they had not switched on some ingeniously presented science-fiction film. But no less incredulous were the academics, officials and journalists who mingled with the international press at the amazingly efficient press centre, organized at 48 hours' notice in the Jerusalem Theatre.

Dr Amatzia Baram, of the Harry S. Truman Institute on Mount Scopus, is writing a thesis on Egyptian left-wing ideology. He could not quite get used to the sight of flesh-and-blood Egyptian journalists wandering round his home town, and asked rather shyly to be introduced to them. Others had no qualms about rushing up to them, pumping their hands and bombarding them with all kinds of questions.

Unlike the official presidential party, sheltered behind a thick wall of security, the Egyptian journalists were accessible to anyone who could recognize them—and if you could not recognize them there were clearly overwhelmed by the novelty of the experience, but they reacted differently from the Israelis, being few among many and in a strange land. They found themselves promoted into instant spokesmen for their Government and their country, a role for which most of them—especially those who work for Western news agencies—were not prepared. They answered questions quietly and politely. Yes, of course they were pleased to be there. Yes, they admired Mr Sadat's decision to come. But evidence that they did not feel it was for them to throw themselves into an orgy of embraces and celebrations.

One could be seen sitting on Saturday night in the lobby of the Diplomat Hotel, signing a copy after copy of the special souvenir edition of the *Jerusalem Post* (with headline in Arabic) for a party of American tourists who unwittingly

booked their Holy Land holiday over this historic weekend. Another, when I told him this morning that Syrian television had shown "the arrival in Israel of the traitor Sadat", replied: "Yes, that's what I was afraid of. The welcome at the airport may have been too warm for Arab opinion to accept."

Still, he was optimistic. "Now that the miracle has happened, anything is possible", he said. I asked why he thought it was possible for President Sadat to do this, he said, "because".

He has taken a long time preparing Egyptian public opinion for it, so that peace is no longer something we have to feel ashamed of. What of the Palestinian Arabs living under Israeli occupation? For them, of course, there is nothing magical or extraordinary about direct contact with Israelis. But many of those who are not politically minded were caught up in the general euphoria—encouraged to see an Arab leader, among them, feted by the Israelis, and leading to the conclusion that peace is about to break out and that they can only benefit from it.

But among the more politically aware Arabs, the reaction has been much more cautious, when not downright hostile. The point was made politely by the teacher at the service in the El Aqsa Mosque this morning. He reminded the distinguished visitor that "from this mosque you can see the affliction of the Palestinian nation, suffering from the disaster" (the Arab word for the war of 1948), and warned him that "any abandonment of our rights in Jerusalem would be the same as losing our rights in Mecca and Medina". Less than a mile away, the students who demonstrated outside the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, shouting "Sadat, what do you want from us? We are against you, we don't want you!" And after alluding to the memory of Gamal Abdel Nasser, went on to shout "Sadat, Sadat, you are a traitor!"

Edward Mortimer

## Cemeteries fit for heroes

We live in an age of utility, in our architecture as in other aspects of life. Nobody who looks at what we build can suppose that it serves any purpose other than efficient function, if that. Architecture to delight the eye, or stir the spirit, or proclaim the future, or celebrate the past is considered irredeemably old-fashioned. We have a horror of emotion, even in stone.

After the last war our principal memorial was not marble but the National Service Fund, established with a capital of £50m derived from the sale of war surplus by Hugh Dalton in 1946. This fund, intended for the cultural and recreational enjoyment of the British people, has seldom been used, and has had its pocket surreptitiously picked by successive governments, so giving neither honour to the dead nor benefit to the living.

The First World War, still significantly better known as the Great War, saw the end of confidence in monumental architecture, as it saw the end of so much else. More than eight million people died in the war, and among the early casualties were belief in art and progress.

Funerary architecture, from the Cenotaph in Whitehall to no fewer than 918 separate cemeteries that still delineate

the Western Front, commemorates the slaughter and the sacrifice in the final flowering of remembrance in stone. At Armistice Day, Gavin Stamp has opened a memorable exhibition at the Royal Institute of British Architects of the silent cities that we built—the dead. He says: "It is one of the many ironies of the war that the catastrophe which irretrievably shattered European civilization allowed a final and supreme expression of the Renaissance humanist tradition in stone."

Another paradox of the Great War was that while its terrible battles expended human lives as wantonly as bullets, afterwards we wanted to receive a permanent memorial in stone. Some thought this cynical humbug. Stegmann Sassoon wrote savagely of the Ypres memorial to the missing, the Menin Gate: "A pile of peace-placemats in stone. Well might the dead who struggled in the slime rise and decide this sepulchre of crime."

In fact Blomfield, Lutyens, and the other architects of the Imperial War Graves Commission, were not erecting slabs of Imperial bombast, but trying to express the vast scale of the human sacrifice in permanent and dignified architectural form, which has meaning by being rooted in tradition. The memorials were not

pieces of propaganda by the Government, but the inspiration of a remarkable man, Fabian Ware. During his service at the front with the Red Cross, Ware became more and more concerned with locating and recording the graves of the dead. His work was not at first officially recognized, but it was of great comfort to the soldiers in the field.

Rudyard Kipling eventually became literary adviser to the Imperial War Graves Commission, and gave them the inscription "A soldier of the Great War known unto God", and the text from *Ecclesiastes*, "Their Name Liveth for Evermore".

When George V made a pilgrimage to the battlefields in 1922, he observed: "I have many times asked myself whether there can be more potent advocates of peace upon earth through the years to come than this massed multitude of silent witnesses to the desolation of war."

He was right. We have lost the talent and the self-confidence to express grief and loss monumentally in stone. Let us hope we never need it again. Stone is cold comfort to the dead. But the soldiers of the Great War and their relatives thought it was better than nothing. And at its highest, as in the Cenotaph and the pyramidal monument to the missing of the Somme, it attained a melancholy majesty that is out of our reach today.

Philip Howard

## The human face of South Africa that need not fear the rest of the world

I have been in South Africa three times this year. And on each occasion I found myself afraid in a new way. Only on the last visit was I able to put down this fear: the acute and deeply felt fear for the Afrikaner people of South Africa.

I think somewhere in the last year or so the whole trend of Afrikaner leadership has taken a deep deviation towards the worse.

If we really are contemplating profound changes in our constitution, if they are going to meet the terrible challenge which life holds out for us in the future, are going to withstand the international pressures which are going to be put on us, we can only do so if we have a constitution which is based more broadly than it is based now, which is conceived in the same way and same spirit as the original compact of union was inspired and conceived.

Therefore, to hold an election on the constitutional issue, to approach it on a party basis, is not only clumsy but also dangerous, and I would almost go as far as to say, is evil.

You can only have a new constitution if all the people of South Africa are consulted. The events of the last 30 years have proved that South Africa has moved out of an era where it can be governed as it has in the last 30 years by a narrow Afrikaner elite.

I can understand why this has come about; historically, there are reasons for it. And I have always felt, however much I disagreed with the government policy over the past 30 years, that perhaps if one gave it time, the instinctive decency, the high level of the old Calvinist conscience found in Afrikanerdom and which has flickered very fiercely in places like Potchefstroom and Stellenbosch recently, would convert the people in power and make them take up again the broad creative stream of Afrikanerdom which demonstrated itself so remarkably at the national convention of the union.

But we must face up to the fact that in the past 30 years, Afrikanerdom, exercising the greatest power that it has had in its history, politically unchallenged, has produced a lesser concept of what it means to be a South African than it inherited when it took over.

This, to me, is the heart of the matter: the failure of Afrikanerdom to produce a contemporary concept of nationhood in which all the inhabitants of South Africa could meet and unite.

The outstanding fact we have to face up to in South Africa seems to me to be that the national government in power has produced a fragmentation of South African society, has produced almost the

destruction of the spirit of union on a scale which to me seems unbelievable. I have never seen us so at a loss for a vision of the future with which we can all identify, emotionally as well as rationally. We are estranged from ourselves, and the Afrikaners are estranged among themselves.

If one could look through this intense historical loyalty which makes them present a united face to the world and the electorate, you will be amazed by the agency, the heart-searching, the disappointment, and the recriminations that are going on at this moment.

Because in their heart of hearts, Afrikanerdom knows that if it goes on this road it has followed for the past 30 years, it is doomed. And I think the great heresy which haunts Afrikanerdom is that a nation can perpetuate itself by sheer political power. This is fatal. A nation perishes when political expediency, so-called political pragmatism, becomes its highest value.

For ultimately a people survives or becomes the power of exercises but as a result of the quality of spirit and the texture of its own being.

This is the kind of survival to which the Afrikaners should aim. They must return to themselves, renew themselves, produce a concept in which every human

being in South Africa, irrespective of race, colour, or creed, can emotionally identify.

And I think the longing for this kind of concept, the readiness for it, is now deeper and more widespread among the Afrikaners and the leaders of Afrikanerdom than ever before.

I think if Mr Vorster said tomorrow apartheid is dead, we are going to have a new national convention, I am going to call all the people of South Africa together and ask them because we have no repeat no time to lose, so that we can jointly decide how to shape the future of the country, the response would be overwhelming.

I think of all this destruction, all this nihilism, which out of sheer despair is coming into South Africa—it is terrible to me to see how depressed people are, how the joy has gone out of life, because there is no leader ready to express this potential for change.

Race and colour prejudice is gone. It is just the desire for power to exploit these things to stay in power.

But the readiness of people of all races and colours to acknowledge an interdependence, to share in the dignity among one another is now greater than it has ever been.

And it just needs somebody to say: let's begin.

If this can happen, if we can be transformed into a people not of four-and-a-half million but one of 25 million which could be if we had a concept in which all races could unite, I would not mind taking on the world.

For we have the finest human material in South Africa—white, black, coloured, Indian—that you can possibly get.

I am always impressed by the quality of people in South Africa. I am always impressed by the quality of the human relationships among people in South Africa—if it had not been for this quality South Africa would have exploded long ago.

If we can carry forward what we practice already in our human relationships politically we are out of the wood. We can defy the world.

I know that the world applies to us a degree of suspicion that it applies to no other country in the world. I know the double standards. But we must not hide behind the fact that the world is wrong as an excuse. Once we create a just society, once the Afrikaners truly stop this fragmentation of our society and start on a greater act of reunion, then I have no fear of the world.

Laurens van der Post

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## LEAPMAN IN AMERICA

The stale lag-end of a humid summer lingered for as unusually long time in New York this year. As late as the first week in November, daytime temperatures were up in the high sixties, under sultry skies.

Suddenly, last weekend, the season's remnants were blown away by some crisp, refreshing, cool Canadian air. The sun came out, casting a wintry glow on the grey skyscrapers. Signing with relief, we awoke to find the city streets reached into the cupboards for our sweaters, heavy coats and fur hats. On the lower East Side, the cheap clothing stores filled their pavement bangles racks with thick, well-stuffed anoraks, and did brisk business.

This is the time of year when I realize how I could not bear to live for long in a place like California or the Caribbean, where winter never comes. The hot and sticky New York summers would be unbearable but for the knowledge that some time they would end.

To celebrate, we decided to wrap up warm and go for a country hike. This is not so popular a pastime here as in Britain, where the Automobile Association, London Transport and other organizations publish informative books of recommended routes for walkers.

Here, all I could find was the New York Walk Book, a bulky publication from whose pages I selected a likely-looking trek near Greenwood Lake, on the border of New York State and New Jersey, some 40 miles from New York City. We drove there, and, as soon as we

had located the start of the hike, we could see that this was going to be a far more serious hike than those favoured by the AA for sedentary motorists.

The routes are well marked by local walking societies with blobs of coloured paint on trees or rocks. The one on which we embarked was a straight-up, at times following a steep stream. A glance upwards showed that it would be uphill for most of the first mile. Our estimate of the time needed to complete the route had to be severely revised.

On the way we passed (or more often were passed by) a few other groups of hikers, sensibly dressed in stout boots, with rucksacks and grey wool hats. It made our casual coats and town shoes look most unsuitable, but, often slipping on damp leaves, we soldiered on to the very top, where a stiff and cold breeze threatened to blow us over the side.

The view was magnificent. The lake is long and slender and on the other side are hills crammed with trees, which, without leaves, looked grey and wintry in the sharp sunshine. Although so near to the city, it is a beauty spot of which we had not previously heard, standing up well to comparison with Britain's Lake District or Snowdonia.

We had to revise our route when we reached the top. The circular trip which we had planned would have taken us beyond dusk and we had brought no food. So we retraced our steps, losing our footing still more downhill. The sense of adventure was enhanced by passing on the

way down two campers who had spent three nights in the hills, boiling water for coffee over a fire made from sticks.

We enjoyed a late and leisurely lunch at an Italian restaurant near the lake, one of the few places still open out of season. On the way home we bought quince apples, quince and red pears from a farmers' market—a welcome alternative to packaged supermarket fruit. After reaching home we went for a relaxing swim in the lake. Thank heaven for winter.

American Express have invited me to join their scheme by which, in the event of an emergency, I can get travellers' cheques at a number of American airports simply by inserting my membership card into a machine. I do not wish to lead such an exciting or uncertain existence that I am likely to find myself suddenly strapped for money in the airport lounge in Atlanta, but much of the American way of doing things is based on the precept that life is full of unexpected crises that need to be handled off, so I shall probably sign up.

The trouble is that, apart from my membership card, I need to memorize a secret number to punch out on the machine. This will be about my fifth secret number, and I fear that one day I shall get into a dreadful muddle.

Both my British and American banks have machines which will produce money if I insert my card and a number. The Avis car rental people have given me what they call a wizard number. I quote it



over the phone and they tell me my name—a handy service for people with poor memories. There is then my phone number, my Social Security number, my National Health number, my apartment number, my zip (postal) code. . . .

My wife has a secret number which allows her to cash cheques at the local supermarket, but in her case it has to be accompanied by a code word of her choosing. (For security reasons, I cannot reveal the word, but it is gratifyingly patriotic.)

In ancient times, scholars spent much energy working on a magic formula which would turn dross to gold. The reason the quest was misguided was that, even if they had found it, gold would soon have ceased to have any real value: it would have been worth more than the dross from which it was created. There is a moral somewhere in all this.

good looks, enormous charm, great sense of humour, diplomatic genius—are more plausible. Ho, Ho, Ho.

Laying it on more cleverly still, he effected to believe that the mode for the character was not himself but Mr Cyrus Vance, and he went on to berate the authors for disrespect to the present Secretary of State. "I have spoken often and, if not eloquently at least at length, in office and since leaving office, of the vital need for bipartisanship, national unity and public confidence in governments," Ho, Ho.

Dr Kissinger concluded: "Any two authors who have spent 33 days cooped up in a plane shuttling through the Middle East must be excused for any minor shortcomings, such as the incredible description of a Secretary of State who is fallible." Ho, Ho. Dr Kissinger promises to give up attempts at light writing, I promise I shall not try to become Secretary of State.

My former colleague Peter Jay has been keeping an uncharacteristic low profile since he became Ambassador to Washington, but I must say I was delighted to read last Monday of his refusal to contribute to a symposium on Britain's taxpaying money which was planned for 1979. Americans already go in for a great deal too much pontificating on the state of Britain, and they invariably get things terribly wrong. Why should we submit to such a thing? I believe that such a person could exist: it is just too much larger than life. Other traits of this central figure—brilliance,





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## MR SADAT IN THE KNESSET

President Sadat yesterday answered those who questioned the sincerity of his trip to Jerusalem by a speech to the Knesset that was an impassioned plea for peace. There were no carefully worded hints, dangled for the comfort of his critical audience, about recognition of the Israeli state. He was full-hearted: "we welcome you with all sincerity to live amongst us". Nothing less of magnanimity, President Sadat realized, could so alter the atmosphere of the Arab-Israeli conflict. And even with this dramatic initiative yesterday's stimulant to hope has very little that is concrete to fasten on.

At the very least President Sadat seems to have retained the initiative that he won when his enterprise was first made known. And that in spite of the chorus of Arab opposition, in part concerted and everywhere genuine, even within the Egyptian Government. How could a single Arab voice in the enemy camp, as so many Arabs believe, be anything but a hypocritical and empty gesture, or, worse, a ploy to devise a separate peace? On this last point President Sadat was unhesitating in his denial. No such agreement with Egypt alone or with any other Arab state could bring the lasting peace that he had come to urge before the Israeli parliament. Of course hostile Arab emotions have had much else to be aroused by in a visit so amply covered by television. The sight of Egyptian and Israeli flags flying side by side, the measured gestures of inter-state protocol, an embrace from Anwar Sadat for Golda Meir—who could have believed it possible?

President Sadat's speech re-

stated the commonly agreed Arab terms for the evacuation of occupied territory. Without being precise about the PLO, President Sadat insisted upon the rights of the Palestinian people to their own state. This was the essence of the problem and no such state should be cause for Israeli anxiety. In giving the Israelis such firm assurances about their own security and the recognition of their state—which of course was explicit in the whole of the Egyptian President's visit—it will be argued by his critics that he gave away the one concession Israel desperately needed, without getting anything in return. Evidently President Sadat believed that his gesture would be of no effect if such assurances were not warmly given and such phrases dear in the past to Arab spokesmen as "so-called Israel" were discarded. In reply, Mr. Begin could hardly grasp a fresh initiative of his own. If concessions are to be made they could not have been even hinted at in such an open forum. And it must be admitted that in standing by the often reiterated Arab terms President Sadat was making demands that Mr. Begin has hitherto firmly refused to meet. It was significant that his speech of reply made no reference to the Palestinians, nor even in so-called circumlocutory phrase an omission that will be seized on in Arab circles to show how empty President Sadat's gesture will prove to have been and how deep the gulf between the two sides will remain. Nevertheless, even if the Israeli Prime Minister did not match President

Sadat's warmth of open-handedness the occasion is bound to make itself felt among Israeli opinion. More than that could not have been expected. In any case for President Sadat a scarcely less important audience than the Israeli Knesset and Mr. Begin was the American Congress and President Carter. The same shake-up is needed there. President Sadat has found in President Carter's view of the Middle East problem a just understanding of the Arab position. What is lacking is President Carter's nerve to act against the inertia and hostility of Congress over Israel at a time when his domestic problems are no less hampered by the same delays and constrictions. The stimulant given to American opinion may be much more potent than the stirring of Israeli thinking that President Sadat's speech will have begun. No one in Washington could have asked for more assurance about Israel's security and status than President Sadat's lavish assurances.

Yet fresh thinking in the United States or in Israel is not much to look to as an engine of change. President Sadat remains a singular spokesman of this new initiative. He may not have disarmed his Arab opposition. His gesture may not draw any prospect of concessions or even the attitude of mind that he has brought to his meeting with Mr. Begin. Like a rocket this flamboyant journey has sent gasps round the world but the black night could as quickly envelop it once again. How else can the momentum be maintained? That is the question that may be answered in the next few days.

## MR MASON DOES THE ROUNDS AGAIN

In Northern Ireland it has proved easier in the past six years to destroy representative institutions than to create them. And so today the province has no tier of representative government between district councils and the House of Commons across the water. Another attempt to repair that deficiency is now to be made by Mr. Roy Mason in a round of separate discussions with Ulster's party leaders.

"Interim devolution" is the objective. That is understood to mean some kind of province-wide elected body more restricted in scope and power than either the defunct Stormont or what is being prepared for Scotland. There are various possibilities. The assembly might be confined to the role of debating the public affairs of the province and examining those with executive responsibility for a range of administrative functions. Or it might be given subordinate legislative powers, including the consideration at an early stage of measures coming before Westminster. Or it might be fashioned to fill the "Macrory gap", which arose from the reorganization of local government in Ulster when some of the more sensitive responsibilities of local government were transferred from councils to boards and the parliament at Stormont, which was shortly thereafter extinguished.

The advantages of putting together some workable provincial institution go beyond whatever improvement in the quality of administration it might make. It would give provincial politics a formal context once again. It might satisfy the condition for an investment drive in Ulster which President Carter and the influential congressmen and senators who have been prompting him have set. And it would restore the appearance of motion in the North of Ireland, the absence of which irks the new government in Dublin.

While Mr. Mason was preparing for the new round of discussions Mr. Lynch was letting it be known in Dublin that if they run into the sand he will be disposed to activate his party's policy of calling for a British declaration of intention to withdraw from Northern Ireland. On Mr. Lynch's lips the demand, yet to be delivered, is neither pre-emptory nor blunt nor precise. It is to the effect that the British Government should show it knows the long-term future of Ulster in terms of Irish unity, and that it is not prepared indefinitely to maintain financial subsidies of the present order and spill its soldiers' blood there. No date would be set and no abrupt change of policy made, but affairs would be conducted from then on not with the idea of cementing the union but of achieving an amicable divorce.

It is argued in Dublin that the convergence of living standards in the Republic and the United Kingdom (still some way to go, but a noticeable trend from the faster growth of the Irish economy over the past decade and more) and the similarity of interests within the EEC of North and South of Ulster will together disengage Ulstermen to look more favourably on Irish unity; and that the withdrawal of the British guarantee that the union will be preserved so long as that is the wish of the majority in Northern Ireland would accelerate that conversion.

The second part of that argument is a dangerous illusion. It has no basis in the history of the past hundred years of the Ulster question. Its one predictable consequence would be to intensify and prolong the campaign of the Provisional IRA. Its present abatement owes something to the greater effectiveness of the security forces, the good cooperation at that level with the Republic, the weariness of Ulster nationalists. But it owes far more to the hard political front presented to the IRA, north and south: to force upon their minds the realization that they are getting nowhere, that their goals retreat not advance, that the bloodshed they wreak is in vain. If Mr. Lynch were to be so unwise as to issue his demand for disengagement he would undo all that at a stroke.

## David Wood

## EEC: in or out is still the question

After Scottish and Welsh devolution Bills, the Bill for direct elections to the European Parliament. On Thursday the third constitutional Bill of the session will comfortably carry in the Commons, as it did at the first time of asking on July 7, in the House of Lords. It has 400 votes for, and 150 against. But once again ministers and Labour rank and file will be deeply split. No wonder politicians of the Eight weep and wail as they ask whether the only example the admitted Parliament at Westminster can set is of insularity or perfidy.

Yet last week in Strasbourg leaders of non-British groups seemed to me to strain logic when they bickered against Westminster's delays in bringing the United Kingdom into line for direct elections in May-June next year, as promised by Mr. Callaghan.

It is not only that no parliamentary bicycle on changes exists in Strasbourg, Luxembourg, or Brussels but by early summer next year could accommodate a European Parliament more than doubled to the strength of 410 directly elected MPs, all with their own seats and microphones. It is also that it makes no sense to argue that the European Parliament cannot have power over the Council of Ministers until it has a democratically representative chamber, and then to complain that the United Kingdom Government cannot immediately commit the democratically representative chamber at Westminster. Parliamentary democracy more often than not, it works at all means delays and compromises between executive and chamber. Westminster has a right to look at a fundamental constitutional Bill like that on direct elections.

Nevertheless, leaders of the non-British European groups have a valid grievance. They find in recent history reasons for distrusting authoritarian regimes and they have relevant since the war the crucial importance of representative chambers with power to bring presidents, chancellors, and prime ministers to heel, or to block and challenge their dictates. That was one of the launching pads for Europeanism. Why, then, does Westminster alone in the Nine obstruct early direct elections? Only one answer springs to mind. The ruling United Kingdom party continues lukewarm about Europeanism, and is in the EEC only for purposes of self-interest.

When the Commons vote on the direct elections Bill this week, it ought to be a question of *Realpolitik*. If the United Kingdom is staying in the Community so far as the human eye can see, then the vote ought to be in favour. If the United Kingdom seriously reserves its position about membership, then the vote could be against. We return to the old political argument about in or out of the EEC, which every body assumed to have been settled by the 1975 referendum. It is *Realpolitik* because decisions are already being taken by the Council of Ministers and the Commission that affect and will increasingly affect the United Kingdom, and there is no effectual democratic control yet over either. Only a directly elected European Parliament could hope to bring the Commission and Council to account in a full democratic sense.

In an evolving way the nominated European Parliament partly does that already. Today it is merely a consultative chamber, some members would say not much different from Westminster itself, with theoretical control over only a quarter of the Commission's derisory small budget. Year by year the Council of Ministers, after trading national interests, does its own budgetary thing. National parliaments, even Westminster, cannot do much to stop or steer the Council. Nor can a non-elected European Parliament, composed of delegates from national parliaments, question whether, even on a delegated footing, the European Parliament today has less influence than

Westminster. The improvement since January 1973, when the Conservative delegation first appeared in Strasbourg, has been marked. So marked that Mr. Roy Jenkins, on becoming Commission President, said that his commissioners would treat the Parliament as though it were already directly elected. He has already kept his word. Except for Tuesday of last week, there were always more of the 13 Commissioners attending the Parliament than MPs from the Commons, who had been kept back at Westminster to vote on the domestic guillotine motions. United Kingdom parties and MPs had put domestic first, leaving Westminster representation at Strasbourg almost wholly to peers.

The Belgian President of the Council, Michel de Wit, is obviously unwell, also not a full day at the European Parliament answering questions and replying to debates, including a foreign affairs debate that was neither better nor worse than any foreign affairs in the Commons. It had slightly more substance, simply because the Third World and the Communist world already have more to gain from relations with the EEC than with any single member of the Nine. As the influence of the EEC grows, the checks and balances of the European Parliament will need to grow with it, and they will whether the Parliament is nominated or directly elected.

Yet a directly elected European Parliament does certainly mean delegating, from Westminster, powers directly elected MPs will have their own responsibilities to constituents, differing more and more from the responsibilities of Westminster MPs to their constituents, and the control of national parties over European MPs will be weakened. There is no point in Europeanists denying that. But that shift of power inheres anyway in the very nature of the EEC, and the crucial question is whether the EEC should be run by an authoritarian power (the Council of Ministers), a bureaucratic power (the Commission), or a democratically representative power (the European Parliament). Nine hundred years of Westminster evolution suggest the obligatory answer.

## Injustices of the Government pay policy

From Professor Sidney Pollard

Sir, There is one major false premise in the argument of the Government and those who have supported them in the current debate on the actions of firemen and others. That is, that it is only the Government which has a responsible attitude to wages, wanting the sort of money incomes to be kept down, whilst their opponents want an anarchic free for all. The facts are otherwise. It is quite possible to accept the Government's target, which appears to be a 10 per cent rise in wage rates (or say, 7 per cent after tax) against an expected price rise of at least 12 per cent, or in other words, a further rise in living standards of 5 per cent, without accepting its methods of attaining them. As it happens, all the groups in recent conflicts have occupied that precise position, though of course it need not always be so.

The Government's method has been to keep wage relatives exactly as they were when the axe fell, over years ago, thus heavily penalizing those who were about to receive important wage increases. Since then, the aim has been to lower most people's incomes, but with important exceptions, such as pensioners and those on Social Security, who are among the lowest paid in our society, and retired civil servants, who include some of the highest paid, all of whom have been totally protected from any loss. In addition, the Government's measures have discriminated in favour of the lower paid, in favour of those who live on fixed proportions of costs, like shopkeepers, estate agents and solicitors in general, and of those who receive wages drift was possible, and in favour of those whose employers have made heavy investments, such as the NCB, and whose employees can therefore claim "productivity" increases. They have discriminated against those who do not fall into these capriciously fortunate categories.

As a university professor, who has been discriminated against by every one of these arbitrary choices, and who in common with other professors has lost nearly 40 per cent of the income of only three years ago—a loss unprecedented for a similar group in the history of the civilized world this century, in time of peace and without an enemy at our doorstep—I, for one, do not find this particular method of sharing the burden to be either just or equitable. Nor, it appears, do other groups which have been discriminated against. They are claiming with justice that they are willing to accept fair treatment within the general system, and it is the Government which is acting totally irresponsibly by refusing to reconsider its arbitrary and haphazard wages policy into which it has stumbled over the past two years.

Thus it is illegitimate for the Government to argue that the issue is one of wages and that it is a matter of policy versus anarchy and inflation. It is, rather, given the total limits on pay, whether we are to have fair and reasonable criteria, such as the recent strikers have proposed, or the chaotic results of expediency and scuttling which the Government are trying to enforce for the third year running. It is becoming clear that those who are outraged by the

blatant injustices of the present course will bring about a winter of strikes, discomforts, dangers and losses which will ultimately lead to the abandonment of all controls—a result that nobody wants.

Yours faithfully,  
S. POLLARD,  
Department of Economic and Social Studies,  
University of Sheffield,  
November 18.

From Mr. N. H. Blake  
Sir, Today (November 17) you printed a letter from Mr. Wireman, the recently elected chairman of the Berkshire County Council Public Protection Committee. In this he made certain observations regarding hours of work in the fire services compared with those in industry generally with particular reference to the Shire Counties. His remarks are misleading.

It is true that on a 15-hour night shift firemen can and do after stand down at 9 pm, watch television, relax in some other way or sleep. If they get a chance. Mr. Wireman should consider against this, that on a 24-hour shift, a fireman will have 40 hours of waking from his ill-deserved sleep, a fireman can be inside a building he has never seen before, which is smoke logged and in danger of collapse. The fireman will have 40 pounds of breathing apparatus strapped to his back, working in temperatures which initially may be higher than those at which Mr. Wireman's Sunday roomers would work.

Regarding Mr. Wireman's comments about an extra 5,000 "public sector employees" could not he consider that with 1,600,000 people unemployed, the employment of even 5,000 more would be a very slight increase on the Exchequer. Of course, if those people were employed in the fire service the payments to them would in fact closely approximate the payments previously received as unemployment benefits.

Lastly, since Mr. Wireman is in fact the chairman of the public protection committee, would it not be reasonable to expect him to better appreciate the task which a fireman will be asked to perform. In Berkshire recently two firemen were killed fighting a fire; both of them had net wages of less than £50 per week.

Yours faithfully,  
N. H. BLAKE,  
The Rectory, Easton,  
103 Dee Road,  
Tilbury,  
Berkshire,  
November 17.

From The Reverend G. L. Russell  
Sir, I have no objection to Cardinal Hume or anyone else supporting the claims of those who see themselves as "social cases", but I wish they would find space in their pleas for just one sentence reminding us that almost the whole population, "special cases" included, would be vastly worse off under rip roaring inflation than we are now.

I am, etc,  
GILBERT RUSSELL,  
The Rectory,  
Berkshire,  
Farnham,  
Surrey,  
November 17.

## Marxism in education

From Dr. R. N. M. Hallam

Sir, Ian Bradley, in his article (*The Times*, November 15) concerning the serious interest which the British academic world is now taking in Marxist thought (a phenomenon which he treats in a regrettably unobjective manner) makes reference to the Polytechnic of North London. In particular he says that the "situation" there is "well known through reports in the press".

It is a sad reflection on Mr. Bradley's profession that, press reports on the Polytechnic though there have frequently been, the "situation" is not at all well known. This is fundamentally because the press, including the *Times*, has allowed itself to become the vehicle of the views of a small group of colleagues and former colleagues of mine who have devoted immense effort over a period of years to propagating a highly tendentious account of life at the Polytechnic. This fact is very much in evidence in Mr. Bradley's article.

In my view, on the contrary, there is nothing to suggest that the Polytechnic is the centre of a life certainly of the Sociology Department, where I have taught for some years: one might mention that the acceptability of our graduates to read for higher degrees in universities and other institutions has been most encouraging.

My purpose is not, however, to attempt in one brief letter to refute allegations to the dissemination of

which so much energy has for so long been applied. It is merely to point out that it is cheap sport for journalists to report the loud voices and that a more realistic, if less familiar, account of the Polytechnic might be obtained were a serious attempt made to ascertain and assess the views of a more representative sample of those who work within it.

Yours sincerely,  
R. N. M. HALLAM,  
Senior Lecturer,  
Department of Sociology,  
The Polytechnic of North London,  
Ladbroke Estate, London, N5,  
Highbury Grove, N5,  
November 16.

From Mr. Grenville Wall  
Sir, Even if it were true (which it isn't) that there is a sociology department of 65 at the Middlesex Polytechnic busily and successfully indoctrinating students with Marxism, Ian Bradley should have been able to find a more concrete evidence of the alleged fact than a quotation from an advertisement and the opinion of T. G. Miller—who, after all, works at another place.

Yours sincerely,  
GRENVILLE WALL,  
Senior Lecturer in Philosophy,  
Middlesex Polytechnic,  
Queensway,  
Enfield,  
Middlesex,  
November 15.

## Dangers of devolution

From Mr. Adam Ferguson

Sir, A week ago you commended the Scottish and Welsh Bills in the words: "On their merits the Bills deserve to be carried." Yesterday, of the Scottish proposals, you declared baldly: "The situation would not hold." Other choices went on to say, would be between "the legislative omniscience of Parliament" (not exactly how I should have turned the phrase) and federalism.

Do you really know what you are saying? Or have we just witnessed, too late to say the guillotine, too late probably to influence the issue this side of referendum, the scale falling from your eyes at last. It is a far cry from the days, less than a year ago, when your columns were suggesting that the presence in Parliament of dozens and dozens of Scottish, Irish and Welsh MPs, underprivileged in respect of their own electorates, and monstrously overprivileged in respect of the English, would come to be regarded as just one of those constitutional quirks which have made us what we are.

The remorseless logic of legislative devolution rolls on. So now you speak of federations. But the Government does not love them—Mr. Timothy Raison points that out in his letter today (November 19). England does not love them. Nor is there any sign that Scotland is

anxious to be the federal guinea-pig the Liberals would make of her. And, even if she were, what makes you think that a federation would hold? None of the halfway houses to separation so far proposed has proved a sure resting place; and the show isn't even on the road.

Meanwhile we have a Bill which, in your own admission, with all its glaring irrelevances and shortcomings, would not hold. I hope you will say very soon, and long before it goes to the Scottish people for a decision which Parliament dares not take, how on earth you think they should respond to so perverted an offer: and whether, if federation is after all the only option short of break-up, only the inhabitants of Scotland should be permitted to decide on it.

You repeat the old cant that "Settled political sentiment now demands unprecipitated political autonomy." If there are two things certain about Scottish political sentiment, they are that it is not settled, and that the numbers of those who regard devolution as a political priority are minuscule. I confess to being increasingly drawn to Strauss-Rupe's dictum: "The less we know about another man's life, the bolder will be our suggestions for improving it." I am, Sir, your faithfully,  
ADAM FERGUSON,  
4 Addison Crescent, W14,  
November 19.

## Devising a fair EEC fisheries regime

From Lord Boothby

Sir, As one who has been actively concerned with the British Fishing Industry for almost four decades, I am, may I say that I find myself in total disagreement with Mrs. Elizabeth Young in her letter today (November 17). She admits that national quotas have proved to be unworkable. She goes on to suggest a "Community fishery regime", based on a Total Allowable Catch decided on an "exclusively scientific ground", and a "management tool" consisting of a complicated licensing system which would have regard to communities particularly dependent on fishing, and legitimate historic rights. Who is to decide all this? And how? She then advocates methods of fishing that are (1) labour intensive, and (2) energy and intensive. The phrases are meaningless.

During my lifetime I have watched what was once a great industry, the herring fishing industry, being destroyed by methods overfishing immature stocks for industrial purposes, particularly on the part of the Dories. When I first entered Parliament, in 1924, we were exporting a million barrels of cured herring a year to Russia, Germany and the Baltic States. Today we cannot even meet our own requirements. I do not want to see a similar fate befall the whole of our fishing industry. Nor do the British people.

The truth is that, having fished out their own grounds, the continental countries of Europe are now

trying to use the EEC to come over and do the same thing to ours. There is only one answer to this—an exclusive 50 mile limit around our coasts. Otherwise the British fishing industry cannot hope to survive. Mrs. Young describes this remedy as "simplistic". That seems to me to be its supreme merit.

Never in my whole political life have I seen public opinion so unanimous. The Labour Party, the Conservative Party at their annual conference, the Liberal Party and the SNP all support it. And in both Houses of Parliament there is an overwhelming majority in favour of it. Mr. Silkin even hinted the other day that in certain areas it may be necessary to go beyond the 50 mile limit, within the 200. And the recent decision of the Government to lay down two more fishery protection ships, for which I have been pressing for the past two years, is a clear indication that they mean business. If it contravenes the Treaty of Rome, then the Treaty must be amended. Our partners in the EEC would rather do that than see us leave the Community altogether.

Mrs. Young concludes her letter by saying that we cannot seriously hope to obtain a 50 nautical mile belt. My answer to that is that not only the fishermen but the nation demand it: not that they will get it. Your obedient servant,  
BOOTHBY,  
House of Lords,  
November 17.

## Refurbishing the SS image

From Mr. T. C. F. Prittle

Sir, Professor Willy Frischauer (letter, November 15) has done a very valuable service in pointing out the many criminal associations and activities of the Waffen SS. There is, however, another side to the matter.

A great many members of the Waffen SS committed no crime whatever, and were used simply as shock troops during Hitler's War. Thus in the last years of the war, 18 and 19 year olds were being drafted into the Waffen SS from other formations in the German Army. From then on, they were engaged in a normal military service, fighting the enemy.

In 1946, when I was *Manchester Guardian* correspondent in Germany, I visited one of the principal camps in which members of the Waffen SS were being held. I was begged by senior members of the SS to talk to the youngest men there and hear their stories. I spoke with a number of them and was entirely convinced that they had never committed criminal activities of any kind.

In 1947 I had much to do with a young German journalist on the staff of the *Die Welt*, who had been an anti-Nazi and who gave some help to the Allied authorities in tracking down German war criminals. This journalist had been decorated for deserting four enemy tanks single handed in 1944. The United States Intelligence learnt that his name was on a list of men "wanted" by the Waffen SS for service with them—simply because of his courage on the field of battle. The list had not been forwarded to his unit before the war came to an end. For that reason alone he had not been referred to the Waffen SS.

Because of the criminal activities of some of its formations, the Waffen SS was very rightly proscribed as a criminal organization. But it needs to be remembered that a great many of its members fought cleanly and honourably. Yours faithfully,  
TERENCE C. F. PRITTLE,  
Bristol and Israel,  
11 Rodmarton Street, W1,  
November 18.

From Dr. St. Benedykt  
Sir, As former inmates of Nazi concentration camps, I highly appreciate the decision of the Home Secretary to expel or deny entry permits to two former SS men who came to this country in order to publish a book whitewashing the SS. We are however appalled that it did not prevent Mr. Hubert Meyer attending a press conference, that the visit of the SS officers was sponsored by a British publishing house and that even some respectable representatives of British political life thought it proper to defend the unwashed visitors.

All members of our Association, Poles and British citizens of Polish origin, were victims of the atrocities committed by Waffen SS troops in concentration camps, prisons as well as in the field.

Yours faithfully,  
N. AYLIFFE-JONES,  
16 Forest Way,  
Ashford,  
Surrey,  
November 17.

## Part-time Concorde

From Mr. N. C. Pearson

Sir, November 22 sees the inauguration of Concorde at London-New York service. No doubt there will be national rejoicings and self-congratulation. Far from exploiting this unique opportunity to the full, however, British Airways are giving the travelling public only two services a week until early in the New Year. The reason, according to the Under-Secretary of Trade in reply to a parliamentary question, lies in "difficulties at the commencement of the training programme".

After the many long months of frustration attending the aid-Concorde campaign, one is astounded and disappointed that British Airways are not even now in a position

to offer the travelling public on both sides of the Atlantic the service they have so eagerly awaited. In private industry heads would surely roll.

By contrast the French, who throughout the Concorde saga seem to have shown greater self-confidence and determination, are offering a daily service from Paris to New York right away.

Let us, therefore, amid the rejoicings, tribute to our French collaborators in the air, who somehow manage to keep their feet so firmly on the ground.

Yours very truly,  
NORMAN PEARSON,  
61 Albert Hall Mansions, SW7,  
November 10.

## Wexford recordings

From Mr. P. H. St. Croix Kehyajan

Sir, I share Bernard Levin's bubbling enthusiasm for Massenet's *Hérodiade* (November 11). But apparently there is no record or tape of this opera commercially available.

Could the BBC be persuaded (by Mr. Levin?) to market their recording of *Hérodiade* in the form of a set of the proceeds to go towards the cost of the next festival?

If other recordings from previous festive performances were also made available, a series (or boxed set) of Wexford Festival records could be offered.

Would Mr. Levin drink to that?  
Yours faithfully,  
PHILIP H. ST. CROIX KEHYAJAN,  
43 Madock Court,  
Kensington Park Road, W11.

## BBC wavelength changes

From Mr. C. R. W. Petty

Sir, I had a sneaking suspicion that I would not be allowed to get away with it. Last year I bought a Japanese car which comes complete with radio. The radio receives only medium wave, and I am thus to be deprived of Radio 4.

A roundabout way of reducing the number of Japanese cars imported into this country?

I suppose I deserved to be punished. Yours faithfully,  
CHRISTOPHER R. W. PETTY,  
7 Buckfast Close,  
Poynton,  
Stockport,  
Cheshire,  
November 16.



## Times Profile

## The man who would be king

"When you are head of state you will be able to do some of the things which I have been unable to do," General Franco once told his successor, Juan Carlos, who tomorrow celebrates his second anniversary as King of Spain. It was the only remark, rich in irony, which the dictator ever made to his designated successor about his conception of the king's role after his own death. Few people dispute that what the 39-year-old King has achieved in the past two years has been remarkable—one of the most successful transitions from dictatorship to democracy of all time, though still to be consolidated.

The Spain of Juan Carlos is

unrecognizable as the country General Franco left behind. There are now political parties, trade unions, a democratic Cortes (Parliament) and statutes of autonomy in progress—all the "enemies" of the dictator.

The King has always wondered whether General Franco's remark was a hint that the dictator realized change was inevitable, or may be that he suspected that Juan Carlos—"The Child" as he was then known—was not as simple as he appeared. If the old generalissimo had been a fly on the wall of the King's elegant study during the long and frank conversation I had with Juan Carlos this month, he would have marvelled, undoubtedly shuddered, at the astuteness and political intelligence of his successor. But then who better to teach the art of survival than Franco?

Was this the same man who was nicknamed "Juan Carlos the Brief" and whom many Spaniards assumed would be a puppet king to maintain the regime? I kept asking myself during our meeting. Then I remembered a joke about the king which he himself appreciates, with a keen sense of humour reminding one of his uncle, the Duke of Edinburgh, whom he greatly admires. The joke went: Why was Juan Carlos crowned in a submarine?—Because deep down he is not stupid. Nothing could be more true.

The King's modest Zarzuela Palace is several miles outside Madrid, in wooded parkland. There is one checkpoint as you enter the grounds and another

just before you reach the palace, which is quite near the dictator's old residence.

Juan Carlos Victor Maria de Borbón y Borbón was born in Rome on Twelfth Night 1938, in the middle of the Spanish Civil War. The royal family had by then been seven years in exile. Don Juan, the Count of Barcelona, the King's father, had tried to enlist General Franco's aid in July 1936. He secretly crossed the Pyrenees and arrived at San Sebastián and agreed to send his son Juan Carlos to Spain to be educated. General Franco did not want to alienate the monarchists, upon whom to a small extent he relied for support in his policy of divide and rule, and Don Juan wanted to leave the door open so that one day the monarchy might return under him or his son. "I was conscious that he would lose contact with reality unless he lived in Spain", Don Juan told me.

General Franco later justified the action by saying: "If a king is again to be head of state he should appear as a peacemaker and not come from the camp of the victors." Seen in the light of today, it was an ironic defence, for General Franco's idea behind later grooming Juan Carlos to succeed him was to maintain the regime born out of his civil war victory.

Alfonso XIII abdicated in favour of Don Juan in 1941, two years after the end of the civil war and six weeks before he died. Don Juan and family moved to Switzerland then to Estoril, Portugal, where he still lives. The rift between Don Juan, who considered that he should be king of Spain, and Franco soon became apparent with a declaration by Don Juan in 1945 calling for the dictator to "recognize the failure of the totalitarian conception of the state" and to restore the monarchy.

General Franco ignored the call and snubbed Don Juan in the 1947 referendum when Spain was declared a "Catholic, social and representative monarchy" with him as the lifetime uncrowned monarch. The dictator had the right to name his successor as king or regent.

Don Juan was furious and denounced the referendum. The following year, on August 25, he met the dictator on board his yacht Azor off San Sebastián and agreed to send his son Juan Carlos to Spain to be educated. General Franco did not want to alienate the monarchists, upon whom to a small extent he relied for support in his policy of divide and rule, and Don Juan wanted to leave the door open so that one day the monarchy might return under him or his son. "I was conscious that he would lose contact with reality unless he lived in Spain", Don Juan told me.

Juan Carlos was only 10 when his father and mother put him on the train at Lisbon for Madrid. Don Juan, with tears in his eyes, turned to his wife and told her: "We are losing a son..." It was the beginning of "Operation Juan Carlos" which later led to Don Juan repudiating his son for accepting the nomination from General Franco and which put both father and son in painful and ambiguous positions. Both are now reconciled and emphasize the strong bond between them.

Juan Carlos arrived in the hungry dark night of the dictatorship when Spain was shunned by the rest of the

world and was in the aftermath of a fierce repression. He was a melancholic and sulking child, separated for long periods at a time from his father and drawn into the cold bosom of General Franco, who never had a son. Juan Carlos was an impressionable and sensitive child. A member of his father's privy council in Lisbon remembers how a Swiss nurse once gave Juan Carlos 250 escudos to give to a beggar who appeared in the garden. "It seems little to me", said Juan Carlos. "We must give him more... I have the obligation to give him more."

The young prince came with his younger brother, Alfonso, and was assigned a formidable team of private tutors appointed by Don Juan, although there were one or two which General Franco later insisted on approving or naming himself. Like Sr Torcuato Fernandez Miranda, a law professor, who later played a vital role in the transition. It was a rigorous schedule: up at 7 am, Mass before breakfast, studies and gymnastics until 1 pm and in the afternoon riding and shooting. Juan Carlos did not see his first film until he was 17. In his library were books like the complete works of Jose Antonio Primo de Rivera, founder of the Falange and hero of the Franco regime, shot during the civil war. The prince's examination results were read out on Radio Nacional. One private report read: "Tries hard, but no real academic flair."

After a second interview between Don Juan and the dictator, Juan Carlos started his military education, passing through the academies of all



three services. Some of Don Juan's supporters feared that Juan Carlos would be "taken in" by the regime. Don Juan warned his son about this. During a visit to Estoril when he was about 16, another member of Don Juan's privy council, now a member of the Cortes, remembers how Juan Carlos told him: "I know you are a friend of my father's and I just want you to realize that I shall always be loyal to him." The pressures were already beginning to show.

In 1954 the prince was invited by Pablo and Federica of Greece to join them on a cruise. There he met his future wife

Sofia, the daughter of the Greek royal couple. Juan Carlos gave her Spanish lessons, for she is a considerable linguist, speaking five languages. He met her again in Rome in 1950 where his future brother-in-law, Constantine of Greece, won a gold medal in the Olympics for yachting, and in 1962 they were married.

Juan Carlos was now studying law, political science and economics. He has an inquisitive, inquiring mind, and during this time would ask his tutors what he should read and from where he should take advice to help him for the future. Sr Fernandez Miranda told him once that he could give him no "crutches" and that he would have to think for himself. It was advice which stayed with the King.

In 1968, when he was 30, he became eligible under the terms of the organic statute law to be appointed successor. Don Juan wrote to his son to warn him of the dangers of accepting the nomination and of the dynastic problems this could create. By this time Juan Carlos had spent 20 years in Spain and according to one person who knew him the regime had convinced him that democracy was a disaster. Juan Carlos felt from early on that the only way he would survive after Franco would be to become a constitutional monarch but he realized his limits and never said during the dictatorship more than he should. He was highly conscious of not overstepping the mark, particularly with the reactionary military, and creating problems for the future.

Juan Carlos always showed the dictator respect and loyalty and would report back to him things which his supporters were saying in his name but which Juan Carlos knew he had not said. General Franco always politely thanked him for what he told him. However, the two of them never had a close relationship and after Juan Carlos was named his successor they did not see much of each other, except at hunts and official occasions.

On July 22, 1969, Juan Carlos accepted the nomination, feeling that he had to do so to save the monarchy. He was aware that to have turned it down would probably have meant losing the crown not only for himself but also for his father. More than that, there was a danger, real at this time according to well placed sources, that the dictator might have named Juan Carlos's cousin, Alfonso, as his successor. Alfonso's father, Don Jaime, bore deep and dumb resentment to his claim to the Spanish throne in favour of his younger brother, Don Juan. Alfonso married the dictator's granddaughter Carmen and was given the title of the Duke of Cadiz.

One person who went to parties given by the Duke of Cadiz after Juan Carlos's nomination remembers prominently displayed pictures of Alfonso XIII with inscriptions to the Duke: "To my favourite grandson."

Juan Carlos accepted the nomination in the only terms which he could by swearing allegiance to the regime and to the political legitimacy which rose from July 18, 1936, the date of General Franco's military uprising. Don Juan denounced his son's appointment and for a time his relations with his son reached a low point. His wife, Dona Maria, acted as an intermediary between father and son. Juan Carlos "suffered" a lot during the last six years of the dictatorship. He was so affected by the nomination and edged on to "confront" his father to show that thinking about it would make him cry. There was never any chance of General Franco naming Don Juan to succeed him, for the differences between the two of them were too great and Don Juan's liberal views and opposition contacts too well known.

From his nomination until the dictator's death, Juan Carlos had to move carefully. His father's telephone in Estoril was tapped, and probably his own was too. People who saw the prince during this time came away impressed by his understanding of the situation.

The recently published diary of Sr Jose Maria Arellaza, the King's Foreign Minister in his first government, relates how Sr Carlos Arias, the Prime Minister of that government, had in his possession according to another minister, "Tapes of conversations when the monarch was prince. It seems that they contain commentaries and tremendous judgments. It would be a dynastic Watergate." The King has demanded to know if there were any tapes but has never been given any.

Don Juan continued to denounce the dictator from Portugal, and there was a tense moment when he fired off an attack in the presence of Juan Carlos. Madrid was agog: was the prince expressing by proxy through his father's voice feelings which he had to suppress? Five months before General Franco died, Don Juan was banned from setting foot in Spain for a brief time after he said that his nomination was "logically no use at all in bringing democratic change."

Throughout the last six years of the regime Juan Carlos was very much in the shadows, but he took every opportunity to show that he had a mind of his own without overplaying himself. Once when attending a reception his aides told him that a group of Carlists, who support a rival claimant to the throne, were outside and wanted to kick his car in. When they advised him to leave by the back entrance he answered: "You can but I am leaving by the same door that I came in." And he did.

When General Franco died

leaving his system "well tied up" there were many who thought Juan Carlos would be a prisoner of the situation. In fact the King asserted his authority right from Franco's death, but subtly; behind the scenes, acutely aware that to break too quickly with the past might provoke a coup and that a go too slowly towards change might unleash the pent-up frustration of the democratic forces. He sweated over his inaugural speech to the rubber-stamp Cortes. No mention of July 18, a clear reference to his father, and to a "new stage." One of his household at the speech remembers: "It was almost frightening to see the cold way the Cortes reacted."

Juan Carlos bore in mind the mistakes of his brother-in-law, ex-King Constantine of Greece. He was convinced that to survive he must become a constitutional monarch but the proposal was how? When the post of President of the Cortes and of the Council of the Realm, bastion of Francoism and the country's highest advisory body, became vacant a week after the dictator's death, the King personally appointed, among murmurs from the right, Sr Fernandez Miranda to the job.

It was a smart move for, although no liberal, Sr Fernandez Miranda was very loyal to the King and told him that he must become constitutional. Rather than accept the formal resignation of Sr Carlos Arias, Sr Fernandez Miranda, Sr Prime Minister, and so run the risk of the Council of the Realm recommending someone even more Francoist—and more seriously for the King someone whom the ruling clique could manipulate more easily—the King asked him to stay on.

The King perfectly understands the highly conservative military. As one of his ministers in his first government told me: "He always keeps an eye on the armed forces to see how they will react to decisions but this does not mean that he consults them."

"You too have had to wait," the King told Sr Arellaza after he was appointed Foreign Minister. It was the release of so much frustration which built up again when it soon became clear to the King—who maintained during the first months after the dictator's death that the country was in a "state of emergency"—that Sr Kissinger, Herr Walter Scheel, President Giscard d'Estaing and Don Juan—thar Sr Arias was a disaster and would have to go. They were kept months for the King and he wondered if he would ever see light at the end of the tunnel.

In July, 1976, he took the decision and asked Sr Arias to resign, and then to everyone's amusement appointed Sr Adolfo Suarez. It had all been carefully planned. Sr Suarez was chosen as the man to dismantle the system from within. Almost everyone criticized the King, but he has been proved right. A King is as wise as the ministers he chooses, a close friend of Don Juan told me.

The King spotted Sr Suarez, who is a few years older than he is, when he was a civil governor. He really got to know him when he was head of television and tried to promote the image of Juan Carlos.

Juan Carlos had by now plucked up enough courage to accept the responsibility of bringing democracy. Those opposed to it would have to "swallow" it. He told Sr Suarez right from the start that one of the many problems would be the legalization of the Communist Party, which was not done until last April. The Communists were letting the palace know that unless they were legalized they would call demonstrations, and the palace was letting them know that if the King were pushed into anything he might find himself a prisoner in his own palace surrounded by tanks. April was a sticky month for him.

Ten days before the first electoral campaign in 41 years, Don Juan abdicated so that there would be no problem in the new democratic Cortes with the drafting of the new constitution as to who was king.

Juan Carlos exudes a strong feeling of having his feet firmly on the ground—he stamped them several times for me as if to demonstrate the point. Spaniards do not want a play-boy king and neither do they want a monarch who is too involved in politics. Juan Carlos wants to be, as he has said in speeches, "the king of all Spaniards."

He wants to retain just sufficient powers so that Spaniards still feel his presence as being above party politics and being at heart the interests of the country as a whole. A measure of his considerable success is that Spain's Euro-communist leader, Sr Santiago Carillo, now numbered among the King's fans. He said dramatically, but with some truth, that without the King, "the shooting would already have begun."

Shortly after I left the palace after our one and a half hour conversation, during which the King, visibly tired from overwork, had to rifle a few vases—a blue Mercedes and past me followed by a black Dodge. The King was driving and he bleeped his horn at he passed it. It was a ritual gesture of a remarkable man who is here to stay.

William Chislett

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We stock a wide range of Alsace wines.

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48 Greek Street

Soho, London, W.1

Tel: 437 4460.

## In the Loire the sense of humour is like the wine, mainly dry or medium dry.



Nevertheless, Loire wines have a very distinct family likeness.

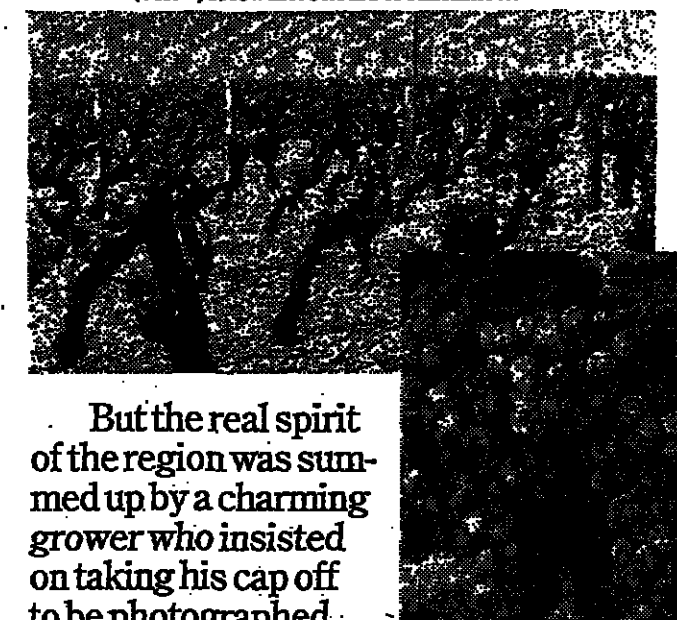
They are not at all pretentious, but made to be drunk young, while they are at their most refreshing. The nicest description given to us was "cascadeur", which literally means "like a waterfall"; in other words, light, carefree and refreshing.

In both Muscadet and Anjou there is an air of reverence at the door of every cellar. It's a bit like going into a church. Especially as some of the cellars even have stained glass windows. Inside, the beams and barrels are often decoratively carved and the walls covered with plaques and inscriptions. Although these are not always so reverent.

In one cellar we were greeted with the wine grower's prayer: Oh God, give me life for a long time, work not too often, love from time to time, but Muscadet for ever.

days in the Loire we held many memories and had tasted many delicious wines. White, rosé and even a few red.

Very old vines, probably 40-50 years old. (below) A few more hours of sunshine...

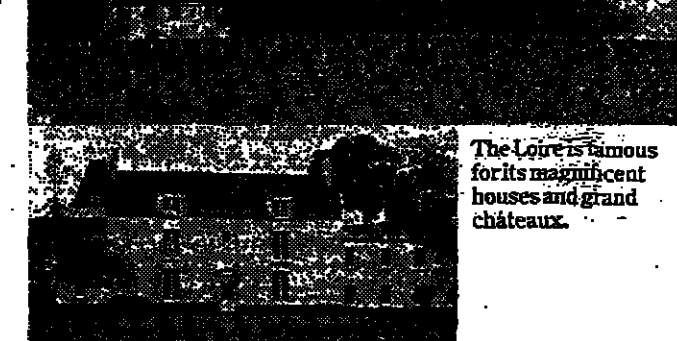


But the real spirit of the region was summed up by a charming grower who insisted on taking his cap off to be photographed, even though he was completely bald.

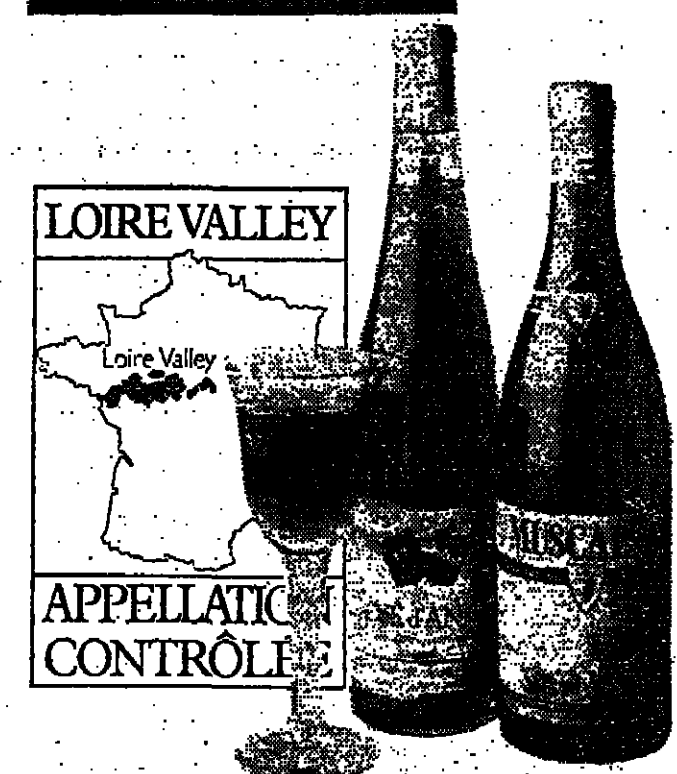
He said "My wine is not art to be kept"

In other words, get on and drink it, and enjoy it.

And who are we, or you, to argue?



The Loire is famous for its magnificent houses and grand châteaux.



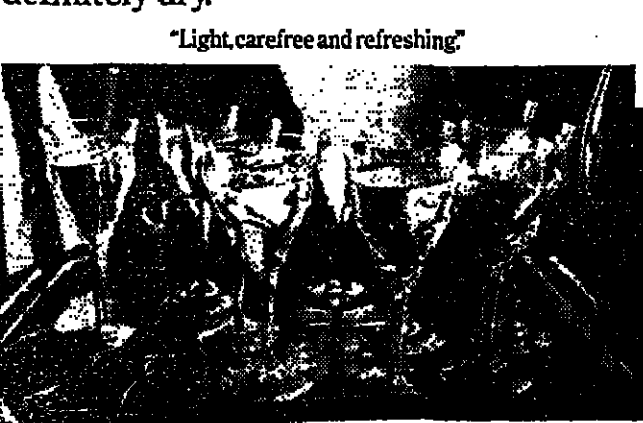
On every bottle of Loire wine you will see the words 'Appellation Contrôlée' which is France's highest designation of fine wines. If you'd like a free colour leaflet on Appellation Contrôlée wines, please write to Food from France, 14 Berkeley Street, London W1X 5AD.

"My wine is not art to be kept". The Loire Valley has been called the 'happy, smiling part of France'. During our stay this overall appraisal was confirmed again and again.

However, within this historic region, which is famous for its great Châteaux, there are noticeable differences in both the people and the wine.

In Muscadet, the Atlantic climate produces a light, dry, almost salty white wine, perfect with seafood. Here the humour is medium dry.

However in Anjou the wines are generally slightly sweeter and mainly rosé, with some white; but the wit is definitely dry.



Not to be outdone, in Anjou we came across the legend: If drinking was a sin, God wouldn't have made Anjou wine so good.

But perhaps our favourite story from the Loire came as we sipped wine in the cellar of a small grower called Monsieur Guillet. In response to the question, "Do you think your wine has any real health-giving properties?" he shrugged his shoulders in the way only a Frenchman can, and pointed to an inscription on the wall. You see more old drunkards than old doctors, it said. After just three

هذا ما لا يصل





## COURT CIRCULAR

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
November 19: The Duchess of Gloucester was safely delivered of a daughter at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, at 2.05 pm today.

**Princess Alice** Duchess of Gloucester will attend the Queen's Silver Jubilee celebration concert at the Festival Hall on November 25.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Grand Master of the Order of the Garter, will present trophies at the Grand Duke of York's Trophy first-aid competition in Sporting Hall and will attend a dinner given by the National Sporting Club at the Café Royal in aid of the Queen's Silver Jubilee fund on November 25.

A memorial service of thanksgiving for the life of Ernest Kitching will be held on Thursday, November 24, at 3 pm at Cuckfield Parish Church.

## Forthcoming marriages

**Dr A. R. G. Gayer** and **Miss A. C. Orr**

The engagement is announced between Dr A. R. G. Gayer, of the Royal Free Hospital, and Miss A. C. Orr, of the Royal Free Hospital, on November 21.

**Mr P. S. Percival** and **Miss E. M. Strickland**

The engagement is announced between Mr P. S. Percival, of the Royal Free Hospital, and Miss E. M. Strickland, of the Royal Free Hospital, on November 21.

**Mr John Bonding** and **Mr Roy Bonding**

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## Turning point in churches' project on the state of Britain

By Clifford Longley  
Religious Affairs Correspondent

An enormous pile of documents, happily described by a member as an attempt to gain an entry in the Guinness Book of Records, has recently landed on the desks of members of the British Council of Churches.

It represents the harvest of paper gathered in as the result of the *Britain Today* and *Tomorrow* project launched two years ago, and it proves that the depth and breadth of the churches' concern for national life or the continuing validity of Parkin's Law.

The project emerged as something of a compromise. The meeting of the British Council of Churches, after the Archbishop of Canterbury's call to the nation in 1975 ended with a slight note of discord between Dr Coggan and Dr Kenneth Greet, secretary of the Methodist Conference.

Dr Coggan sought the council's support and obviously wanted a fairly quick reaction; the other side of the coin was that the degree of analysis required would take rather more like five years to produce.

The secretary of the British Council of Churches has so far managed to please both by having the project described as a "documentary project".

Nevertheless, if the council can turn the corner and proceed to the condensation stage, there are signs that something of real benefit to the churches and the nation will emerge.

The Archbishop's call to the nation and the national mood at the time of the inception of *Britain Today* and *Tomorrow* were profoundly pessimistic and almost apocalyptic. British society seemed to be heading towards an abyss, with inflation apparently out of control and a question mark over the very fabric of society.

The churches' response was an attempt at understanding that was unprecedented, with a feeling that the sort of common-sense social and political observations churches had made

until then were no longer sufficiently penetrating to be useful.

The project no longer reflects the national mood; in fact, part of its value is that it continues to hold the spotlight on issues of the life and death of nations that people do not think about one second longer than they have to, although they ought to.

At this stage it is too vast to summarize. Any journalistic selection of two paragraphs from half a million words is an inevitable distortion. But at the time of the inception of *Britain Today* and *Tomorrow* were profoundly pessimistic and almost apocalyptic. British society seemed to be heading towards an abyss, with inflation apparently out of control and a question mark over the very fabric of society.

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## Extra performances of play to benefit charities

By Arts Reporter

A London theatre is planning to invite charities to take the proceeds of four performances each year to mark the success of its present production.

It could mean as much as £2,000 for each charity selected to benefit, among actors, stage management, box office and other staff at the Theatre, London, where Tom Stoppard's play, *Dirty Linen*, has been given 60 performances over the past 20 months.

One proviso is that charities that apply should be able to offer a benefit to the public, such as a lecture or a concert.

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## Anglo-Soviet conference urges cooperation

By Richard Davy

The third Anglo-Soviet round table conference ended at the weekend at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London.

Mr Nikolai Inozemtsev, director of the Institute of World Economy and International Relations in Moscow, said that the meeting had helped to deepen understanding of the problems and motives of both sides.

He noted that while the first two round table conferences had concentrated mainly on Anglo-Soviet relations, this one had taken in more of the broader spectrum of international relations and world economy.

In spite of differences between the delegations the opinions of both sides were clear and the meeting for cooperation on many issues.

He expressed particular concern about the possible destabilising effects of the arms race.

Mr Andrew Schofield, director of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, said that the discussion of Southern Africa had put the West on the defensive, with the Russians wanting to know how the West was prepared to go.

The conference also discussed the possible destabilising effects of the arms race.

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## Science report

Remote sensing: Growth in Sinai

Photographs taken in April, 1976, showed a dark square, 5.5 km by 5.5 km, in the middle of this region. The amount of light reflected from the area was about 13 per cent at all wavelengths and so could not be due to the effects of living vegetation which tends to absorb light predominantly at particular wavelengths.

The square had in fact been fenced off in the summer of 1974 and later visits to the area showed that the amount of ground covered by plants had increased, as had the number of species of plants. Less light is being reflected not because of the greater density of plants in those areas but because of the presence of grazing animals and man (or rather woman in this instance).

It is remarkable that such a large change in reflectivity can occur in only three years simply by removing anthropogenic pressures. A connection has been proposed between the reflectivity of

an arid region and the amount of rainfall it receives. If the reflectivity is decreased over a large area then the rainfall should increase, a theory which has been supported by modelling experiments but never tested on a large scale. On the basis of that theory proposals have been made to attempt to produce a climatic change by spreading a layer of carbon dust over the deserts. The square in the Sinai shows that, in this region at least, similar effects may be produced in a short time simply by fencing off the whole area. That would certainly produce predictable political effects although the climatic effects are not so certain.

By Nature-Times News Service.

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## Stock Exchange Prices

### tion and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov 14. Dealings End, Nov 25.  $\S$  Contango Day, Nov 28. Settlement Day, Dec 6  
 $\S$  Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days  
(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

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# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

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## Government may seek leeway on domestic credit in IMF talks

By John Whitmore  
Financial Correspondent

Discussions between the Treasury and visiting officials from the International Monetary Fund on the next stage for the British economy start today. They are expected to last throughout the next week and to continue into the next week.

The talks will be taking place in a very different atmosphere from those almost a year ago against the background of a major economic crisis.

In the intervening period the balance of payments has improved, the major concern of the IMF has been turned round far more rapidly than originally forecast. Britain's external position has improved to the extent that the size of its foreign currency reserves (at least in gross terms, before allowing for debt repayments due overseas) have grown so strongly that the Government no longer requires to draw down additional financing made available by the IMF.

While loans that have been drawn down remain outstanding, however, the IMF will remain interested in the future course of the British economy and in the timetable for debt repayments. After examining the main Treasury forecasts for next year, a major part of this week's discussion will centre on the Government's targets for the public sector borrowing requirement, domestic credit expansion and the money supply.

Last December's Letter of Intent from the Government to the IMF predicted a public sector borrowing requirement of up to £8,600m for the financial year 1978-79 and a ceiling for domestic credit expansion of £6,000m.

While it is thought that the Government remains reasonably

happy with the PSBR limit, it does appear that it would like to see some increase in the permitted level of DCE.

Because of the huge sales of public sector debt to neutralise the effects of its exchange rate policy in the first 10 months of this year, the Government looks set to undershoot the current year's DCE ceiling of £7,700m by a substantial margin.

However, now that overseas inflows are being checked off and the balance of payments surplus reduced by the recent decision to allow sterling to appreciate, and given the expectation of accelerating recovery in the domestic economy, the Government feels that it may require rather more leeway with DCE.

It is thought that the Treasury would like to see the ceiling raised to around £7,000m. This, it is felt, would afford a reasonable degree of headroom given the uncertainties next year as to just how the external position will, in fact, develop.

What is not known at this stage is the precise size of expansion the Treasury is looking for in sterling M3, the broad-based definition of money supply. All that is clear so far is that the Government is planning to move from forecasting a target range for growth over a full 12 months—such as it is using in the current year—to a system of rolling targets set at more frequent intervals.

These will be aimed at affording the authorities rather greater flexibility in managing the money supply as financial and economic circumstances alter—and not in affording them greater leeway to take a more lax view of the importance of monetary control.

## OECD officials confer on slowdown threat

By David Blake

Top officials of the 'West's' industrial nations meet in Paris today to discuss forecasts of sharply rising unemployment in Europe, and the threat of a general economic slowdown in the second half of 1978. The officials represent the economic policy committee of the 24-nation Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

The OECD predicts that by the second half of 1978 growth in Europe will have fallen to around 1.4 per cent. This compares with an estimated five per cent growth rate needed to start bringing down unemployment.

It also looks unlikely that the United States can succeed in tugging down unemployment next year unless the Carter Administration takes further stimulatory action. American growth is expected to decline to 3.1 per cent in the second half of 1978—below the level needed to reduce unemployment.

The prospect of even higher unemployment next year from the current 16 million is producing a gloom among many of the member countries and grave concern to the OECD forecasters.

Doubts about the accuracy of the predictions were aired last week at a meeting of forecasters from OECD countries. The Americans, in particular, said that the OECD estimates were too gloomy. However, national governments have been claiming that OECD estimates are too pessimistic for well over two years now, a period during which the forecasts have usually tended to understate the risks of recession.

The picture is particularly bleak for the world trade, which is expected to expand by only around 4 per cent next year, with very little growth indeed in trade between OECD member countries.

What little growth there will be comes from higher OECD exports to non-oil developing countries. Total exports are expected to grow by 5.1 to 6 per cent, rather more than imports.

The OECD deficit is expected to decline from around \$30,000m (about £16,500m) this year to about \$25,000m in 1978.

Improvement is foreseen as developing countries are expected to run down their reserves during 1978. These reserves are at present being boosted by heavy borrowing in international capital markets, which OECD forecasters now expect to be at a much higher level than seemed likely.

OECD exports to the developing world cannot continue indefinitely, however, and there will have to be a stronger pick-up in demand within the industrial world if a full-scale recession in 1979 is to be avoided.

Overall OECD growth of 3 per cent in the second half of 1978 will not be enough to provide any spur to investment.

## NEDO chief to rebuke state group chairmen

By Malcolm Brown

Sir Ronald McIntosh, director-general of the National Economic Development Office, is expected to deliver a rebuke to state industry chairmen this week. Many of them have rejected the criticisms made of them last year in the NEDO report *A Study of United Kingdom Nationalised Industries*.

The NEDO report advocated fundamental changes in the running of nationalised industries, including creating top-level policy councils which would provide the forum for greater participation by Whitehall, trade unions and consumers in their strategic planning.

But earlier this year, in a report of the Select Committee on Nationalised Industries, the proposals were greeted less than enthusiastically by the industries. British Airways, British Steel, British Rail and the National Coal Board all poured cold water on the idea.

In a considered reply this week Sir Ronald, who is leaving the NEDO at the end of the year, is likely to say that while it is quite clear that the state industry chairmen do not agree with the solutions suggested by his team this does not absolve them from suggesting some alternative.

He will stress that dislike of the particular solution proposed does not carry with it the implication that the problem does not exist.

## Treasury dilemma on McIntosh successor

By Maurice Corria  
Industrial Editor

An early decision on who is to succeed Sir Donald McIntosh as director-general of the National Economic Development Office appears to be held up by a TUC recommendation that the Government should nominate an industrialist rather than a senior civil servant.

The problem is that the salary is frozen at just under £19,000 a year since it ranks with that of grades set for Permanent Secretaries.

Few businessmen commanding trade union respect with a working knowledge of Whitehall as well as an economics training, are likely to be attracted to the job. Senior Whitehall men, usually with a Treasury background, have tended to dominate the appointments.

Plenty of names are flying round in CBI and TUC circles. For what they are worth, the lists of the potential candidates include Mr Michael Shenkar, a Treasury director, and chairman of the National Consumer Council.

Another name is that of Mr George Canall, director-general of the National Farmers Union, who is a strong CBI member and once headed a government manpower service. A popular choice is Mr Alan Lord, who



Sir Ronald McIntosh: alternative to NEDO solution invited.

The NEDO report, one of the most critical documents to appear since nationalisation, has been criticised for a long time. It has been criticised for its lack of realism, its failure to take account of the deteriorating relationships between the Government and state industries, characterised by distrust and confusion.

Sir Ronald said at the time: "I knew the situation was bad, but I had not realised until we began this study that it was as bad as it is."

A major criticism of the policy council has been that they would add further layers to the operational management of state industries. Under the NEDO plan existing corporate boards would be responsible for managing state corporations in line with policy council decisions.

State industry board members would be appointed by and be accountable to the policy council, which would itself account to Parliament through annual reports.

## Minister expected to order inquiry into brewing industry investment

By Patricia Tisdell

An inquiry into brewing industry investment plans and their effect on prices is tipped as a likely outcome of the deliberations of Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, on the Price Commission's highly critical report on beer prices and margins published in July.

Consultations with brewery representatives are expected to take place within the next few days.

A formula which will allow brewers to end their informal freeze on beer price rises without including investment costs in the calculation is thought to be on the agenda for the consultations.

Big brewery companies, none of whom has sought price increases since the new price control legislation came into force in August, say that they are not prepared to peg prices for much longer.

Brewers' argument is that production costs have been rising at the same rate as in the first part of the year, when increases were implemented. A decrease in barley prices has been more than offset by dearer fuel, and the new round of wage agreements is also starting to bite into profits.

Whitbread, whose interim results recently revealed a 2.3 per cent drop in profits during the six months to August, when

it had a relatively free hand in fixing prices, says it is preparing to seek an increase early next year.

Brewers have already sought advice on how the reconstituted Price Commission, which has considerable discretionary powers in interpreting the price code, would view their case for an increase.

Under the legislation which expired in July they had been entitled to offset part of their investment costs against price increases. But, while concluding that beer prices had risen rather less than prices generally, the old Price Commission called in the report for a "scrutiny of the industry's future investment plans."

This rejected the argument that the three-year programme, valued at nearly £1,000m in 1976 prices, would have to be funded from higher prices.

Most of the larger brewers have been going ahead with expansion plans this year despite slack sales caused mainly by bad weather but exacerbated by industrial action and lower consumer spending.

The programme provides, collectively, for investment of £498m on increasing brewing and wholesaling, mainly to cater for an expected increase in demand for lager. The new plants can be switched to conventional beers if the increase does not materialise. Also, the plans provide for £227m to be

spent on property, chiefly on improving public houses.

Companies with big expansion programmes already under way include Scottish & Newcastle, which expects to have spent more than half the £50m appropriated for new investment by the end of next year.

Whitbread has scheduled £100m worth of investment, of which the largest section is £35m to be spent on a new lager plant at Major, in Wales.

To influence implementation of investment programmes to increase capacity at this stage, an inquiry would have to be undertaken swiftly. It could have a profound effect on the way in which these costs are reflected in prices.

As far as improvements to public houses are concerned, an investigation into the deployment of funds could have far-reaching effects on the traditional relationship between brewer and tenant.

Under the present arrangements responsibility for major renovations rests with the brewers. The old price commission did not accept the brewers' claim that they could not separate the return on an existing investment of £1,300m in tied houses from that on brewing and wholesaling. It said the argument "suggests an approach to investment and deployment of funds which is quite outmoded."

## Opec price rise of 5-8 pc predicted

Rio de Janeiro, Nov 20.—

Señor Carlos Andres Perez, Venezuela's President, forecast yesterday that an upcoming meeting in Caracas of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will increase oil prices "no more than 8 per cent and no less than 5 per cent."

The increase was "fully justified," he said.

Talking to a group of editors during a visit to the Rio newspaper, *Journal do Brasil*, Señor Perez said that "the purchasing power of the dollars we get from our oil has been substantially reduced during the last two years by the world inflation, so the increase of price is only fair."

## Brown and Root tax investigation

Norway confirmed at the weekend that its tax authorities had started investigating the tax affairs of Brown and Root, the American oil services company with interests in the North Sea.

This comes after reports that the British and the Norwegian authorities were inquiring into alleged income tax irregularities. Reports in a London newspaper allege that by declaring only a proportion of employees' salaries and paying the rest through overseas bank accounts the company has prevented the authorities from collecting several million pounds of income tax.

## Leyland fears unrest over TUC pay ruling

By Donald Macintyre  
Labour Reporter

Leyland bracing itself for a period of tension over pay within the Cars group if, as seems certain, the TUC General Council hold fast on Wednesday to a strict 12-month rule on pay.

A party part of the new Leyland Cars industrial relations measures, accepted by a majority of nearly two to one in a ballot of the workforce, is the bringing of all agreements into one yearly round, starting on November 1.

But all indications are that the General Council, at its meeting on Wednesday, will refuse to accept a breach of the 12-month rule that would be needed for those of Leyland's 103,000 car workers who do not already settle on November 1.

Although the company's biggest plant, at Longbridge, and a number of others in Birmingham already settle on November 1, workers at Cowley will have to wait until February for the 10 per cent increase on offer from a new agreement.

With a substantial minority of the workforce against the deal in any case, Leyland could face some unrest over the delay if the General Council rules out any exception in the rule that 12 months must elapse between settlements.

Mr Joseph Gormley, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, has already made it clear that he would support a strike for Leyland if the NUM will expect the same TUC sanction immediately.

The remainder of the measures, however, including the promise to pay the same rate

for the same job throughout the group by November 1979, would not be affected by the General Council decision.

And Leyland intends to implement for all workers a productivity bonus from November, unspecified at present but to be trebled from January, which it sees as well within government guidelines.

Malcolm Brown writes: A suggestion that 25 per cent of the equity of British Leyland should be put in trust for the workforce in an effort to boost productivity, has been made by Mr Michael Grylls, MP, vice-chairman of the Conservative Industry Committee.

In a letter to Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, Mr Grylls welcomes the structural changes announced last week by Leyland but gives warning that this does not solve the central problem—the need to produce more vehicles. A dramatic gesture is needed, he argues.

"I suggest one way is to set aside 25 per cent of the 95 per cent government equity (held by the NEB) placing these shares in trust for the employees of British Leyland."

These shares—about 75 million, or 500 per worker—would be issued over a five-year period in proportion to the production achieved by each factory, Mr Grylls says.

## Confusion rules OK in consumer surveys

More people in Chicago will be celebrating Christmas this year around artificial trees than around real ones. Some 41 per cent of Chicago families will buy real trees, against just 3 per cent buying artificial ones, but 53 per cent of all Chicago households already own plastic trees.

Detailed consumer surveys are extremely good at discovering facts such as these, but the more general consumer confidence surveys appear increasingly to produce more confusion than clarity. Three new such surveys, compiled by the Continental Illinois Bank, Citicorp and the United States Conference Board, prove this point.

Continental Illinois has conducted two surveys of Chicago consumers, with one showing that their confidence in the business outlook is at its lowest level in two years, and that fully 60 per cent of the people in the "windy city" believe they are worse off, or no better off, than they were a year ago.

At the same time, however, a detailed Christmas shopping survey by the bank shows that 63 per cent of all Chicago households plan to spend more on gifts and celebrations while a further 23 per cent will spend more than \$400.

Citicorp reports that in a general survey it found 46 per cent of all respondents convinced that the business climate would worsen in the next six months—a higher percentage of pessimists than in any previous similar survey. This year and next, it says, the level recorded in a survey last January.

But Citicorp also found that Americans appear more determined than ever to buy new, costly domestic appliances.

The Conference Board survey is less clear-cut. Its latest results show a modest decline in October in consumer sentiment, but also some upswing in intentions to increase their spending on new cars and holidays.

Thus, while the detailed surveys show consumers set to boost spending, the general surveys in all three cases show a decline in consumer confidence.

It is difficult to reconcile these conflicting results. One is tempted to think that fears for the future would lead consumers to save more and spend less, but this does not appear to be the case. A greater degree of attention is being paid by economists to consumer and business confidence surveys, but so far their results do not appear to be a particularly helpful guide.

Frank Vogl

## Unit trust doubts hinder S & P quote decision

Unexcused prospects for the unit trust industry—despite OPEC's slightly better figures—rather than problems in the United States. Life assurance subsidiary are the main reasons why the S & P group is continuing to have reservations about a decision to seek a public quotation.

Difficulties in the United States were one of the reasons why Britain's largest unit trust group postponed its well-advanced plans to go public some 15 months ago, according to Mr David Maitland, S & P's managing director, yesterday, but it was "no longer a significant factor."

Mr Maitland said First Investment Annuity Company of America, a subsidiary of S & P, 42 per cent-owned investment Annuity Incorporated, had stopped writing business after a changed interpretation of the tax laws by the United States Inland Revenue Service.

An MP urged the Post Office yesterday to experiment with a skeleton Sunday service. Mr

LAI recently received a bid which S & P well consider at the end of this month.

## National Savings stay buoyant

Investment in National Savings continued buoyant in the five weeks to October 29. Net new savings were £199.7m, lifting the total in the first 31 weeks of the current financial year to £1,002m.

In particular there was sharp growth in demand for National Savings Certificates. October sales of £47.3m lifted the total so far this year to £256.5m, compared with £98.8m after the first seven months of the 1976-77 financial year.

MP calls for skeleton Sunday mail service. An MP urged the Post Office yesterday to experiment with a skeleton Sunday service. Mr

## World tin shortfall

World tin output, which this year is expected to fall 15,000 tonnes short of consumption, is likely to drop even further in future unless adequate incentives are given to producers, a world tin symposium in La Paz, Bolivia, concluded last week.

Delegates said the best incentive to higher production was better world prices. These were necessary to promote more investment for the discovery and exploitation of tin deposits.

White-collar staff employees at Ford's Halewood, Liverpool, plant yesterday accepted a 12 per cent pay offer. About 800 of the 1,200 foremen, engineers and clerical workers voted in favour. The decision was a landmark as there had been indications that the staff would impose sanctions, such as an overtime ban, in support of improved pensions.

## Cementation wins £10m Selby contract

Cementation Mining has been awarded a contract for design and sinking of a second pair of shafts at the Selby, Yorkshire, mine project of the National Coal Board.

The shafts will be located south of the Rical shaft and concrete-lined throughout. Value of the shaft construction and associated works is in the region of £10m.

On other pages  
Appointments vacant 22, 24, 25  
Business appointments 22  
Diary in Europe 21  
Financial Editor 21  
Letters 20  
Management 20  
Weekly share prices 18

Bank Base Rates Table 23  
Annual statements: Kwik Save 21  
Freestrich Parker 19  
Interim statements: Hill Scarnell 20  
F. H. Lloyd 19

Lending rate 5 pc  
The Bank of England's minimum lending rate remains unchanged at 5%. The following are the results of Friday's Treasury Bill Tender:

Applications: 22,44m Allotted: 22,44m  
Bids at: 22,44m Received: 22,44m  
Afterwards: 22,44m  
Next Friday: 22,44m Replace: 22,44m

The free trading system was in the greatest jeopardy since before the Second World War and the negotiators believed the Japanese had so far failed to appreciate the speed with which protectionist pressures were building up.

Japan's trade surplus for the fiscal year ending next March is expected to reach \$14,000m (about £7,778m).

## PRESTWICH PARKER LTD.

Manufacture and sale of nuts & bolts. Merchandising of engineering sundries and protective clothing.

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT  
The Annual General Meeting of Prestwich Parker Limited was held at Atherton on the 17th November and the following is the report of the Chairman, Mr. Alfred Parker.

The Accounts now presented for our last financial year show a profit before tax of £174,485.

The major cause of the reduction in the level of profit compared with previous years has been the necessity to make full provision for doubtful debts having been incurred in our overseas trading. Every effort is being pursued to recover the debts due to the Company.

Trading on the home market has again been difficult. The lack of demand throughout the construction and engineering industries has created keen competition for orders and a reduction of profit margins. Manufacturing expenses continue to increase and can only be offset by increased production, and your Board is constantly reviewing methods to improve the output. Consideration is being given to the acquisition of new plant to reduce the high production cost of hot forging operations. The ever increasing cost of raw materials and labour involved in the hot forging process are reducing profit margins to a level which necessitates a change over to new methods and the introduction of additional automated machines.

Our merchandising subsidiary, Potter Cowan and Company Limited, has again had a successful year. The service offered in Scotland has gained many new customers and we look forward to further increased trading in the current year. At Aberdeen, the branch turnover has profited from the demands of this active industrial field and we are sure this expansion can be maintained.

In April 1977, the interim dividend of .8125 pence per share was paid and the Board have recommended a final dividend of 2.1875 pence per share—a total of three pence per share and the same amount as for the previous year.

Finally, I wish to thank all our employees who have given their efforts and full support to the Company activities during the year under review.

For copy of Trading Statement to September 1977, and list of Outlets, Write:

Belhaven House,  
67 Walton Road,  
Molesey, Surrey.  
(01-941-1597)

## F.H. Lloyd

HOLDINGS LIMITED  
Interim Report

	Unaudited Results for 26 weeks to 30.09.77	Audited Results for 26 weeks to 30.09.76
External Sales	31,295	30,747
Profit before Taxation	2,122	2,339
Earnings per 25p Share	4.1p	4.5p
Dividend per Share	1.63p	1.46p
Interim Additional payment re 1976/77	0.0507p	—

Chairman's Comments  
Company results for the six months ended 1st October, 1977—pre-tax profits of £2,122,000 (1976 £2,339,000)—are in line with my comments at the time of my June statement.

The reduced level of orders in our Foundry and Steel companies has continued and I do not expect any uplift in the second half of the year. The U.K. and world situations in both of these sectors show no sign of improvement and have indeed deteriorated further since June.

The Engineering companies and the Lloyd Cooper mini-mill, I am pleased to say, continue to operate at satisfactory levels.

We have, during the last six months, re-organised our Group management structure into two divisions—"Foundry Services Division" and "Steel and Engineering Division"—with a Joint Divisional Executive Board. Our object is to extend Group executive responsibility to the Managing Directors of our major companies, so directly involving them in Group decision-making. This plan is working well and is already contributing to an improvement in the efficiency of Group operation.



## MANAGEMENT

Edited by Rodney Cowton

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Advertisements of pure gold

New advertisements for Benson & Hedges Special Filter cigarettes are starting to create a stir outside as well as inside advertising circles. Appearing in newspapers and magazines and on posters the campaign shows the familiar gold pack in a variety of surrealistic settings—inside a birdcage, alongside a mouse hole, hung in a picture gallery and inset in a signet ring.

The latest, where the pack is plugged into an electric socket, highlights the slightly "jokey" theme used throughout the series.

The absence of words as well as being aesthetically desirable is useful in helping to keep the advertisements clear of the Government's restrictions

Apart from their striking appearance, the advertisements are unusual in that they carry no words apart from the obligatory government health warning and the printing on the pack. While generating an unusually high level of interest from smokers—Ms Maggie Green, executive in charge of marketing the brand at Gallaher, says she has never received so many letters and comments about an advertising campaign—they are regarded with a mixture of scepticism and envy by competitors.

The word most frequently used, with much justification, to describe the campaign is "brave". And indeed when, last autumn, the campaign was first designed, the cigarette market was in turmoil during a price war over king size brands,

which Gallaher's prestige Special Filter brand at that time appeared to be in danger of losing.

Aggressive marketing of the John Player brand by Imperial Tobacco forced Rothmans and Gallaher, the established sector leaders, to look sharply at their own promotional strategies.

Not surprisingly, the aloof, almost arrogant theme drawn up for this campaign was agreed only after much heart searching by Gallaher and Collier Dickinson & Pearce, its advertising agency. The concept was in marked contrast to the price slashing, special offers, value for money themes of other manufacturers.

During the inevitable time-lag between design and publication of the advertisements this spring, cigarette sales trends stabilized. The king size share of the market expanded from about 8 per cent of the total to more than 20 per cent, with clear signs of further growth to a present figure of possibly 30 per cent.

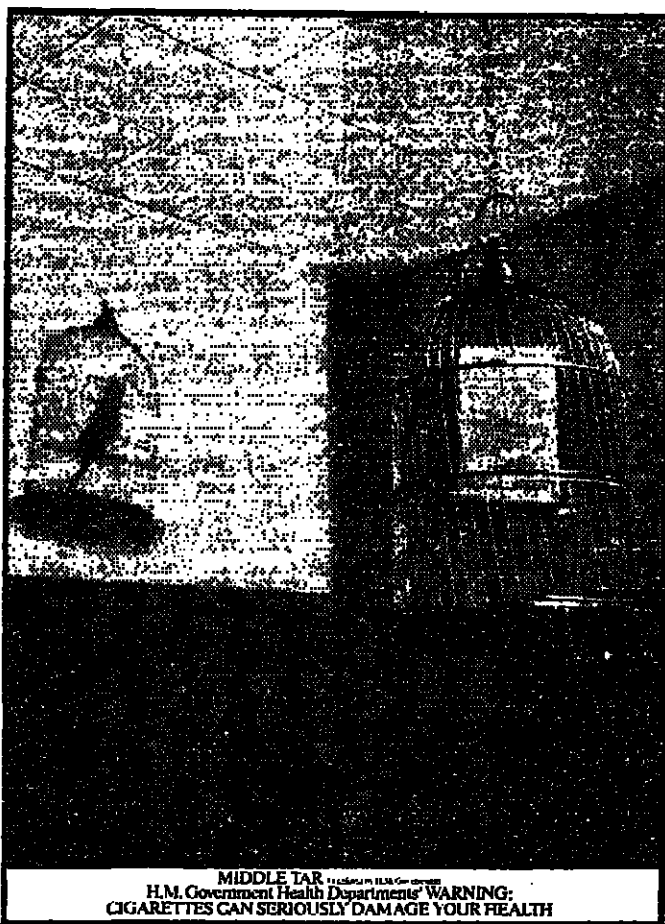
Discounting continued but became slightly muted as the promotional prices which accompanied the John Player king size launch gradually faded. While keeping pace with its competitors on price, through trade discounts, Gallaher was anxious to keep the prestige image, painstakingly built up for Benson & Hedges Special Filter over since the brand was first launched in 1962.

At that time, king size filters represented only about 2 per cent of cigarette sales. Gallaher's reasoning was that this type of cigarette was bought mainly as a luxury for special occasions and it catered single-mindedly for this market from the outset with an expensive and expensive-looking gold foil pack.

From the start the policy has been that all advertisements (except television commercials, which in any case have been banned since 1965) appeared in colour. Of necessity, this restricted the media which could be used initially to theatre programmes and glossy magazines, spreading later to newspaper colour supplements and later still to newspapers themselves.

However, since king size cigarettes were still a minority market, this was not seen as too much of an inhibition.

A new departure of the present campaign, to match the recent dramatic expansion of the market, has been its appearance on poster sites, which of course give a much wider audience. This too was not a decision taken lightly,



One of the surrealistic Benson and Hedges advertisements.

since formerly posters where a variety of products appear in close proximity were seen as possibly detracting from the brand image.

The present series of advertisements is a departure in theme as well as in the way in which they are used. For example, in previous press advertisements, humour, although appearing in written puns such as the widely used "pure gold from Benson & Hedges" slogan, was much more subdued.

At the same time the campaign incorporates many elements of the early cinema and television commercials, which among other things were notable for containing only music on the sound track as well as for the humorous twists at the end. The absence of words in the new press advertisements, as well as being aesthetically desirable, is useful in helping to keep the advertisements clear of the minefield of restrictions now imposed on cigarette advertising content.

Gallaher is relying mainly on the originality of its advertisements rather than the frequency with which they appear to win attention. The company is reluctant to cite actual spending levels but says that the sums spent on buying media space are probably no higher than say Rothmans, its main competitor. However,

Gallaher says that Special Filter advertisements cost approximately twice as much to produce as those for any of its other brands.

Enormous pains are taken in composing and photographing the pictures—to give the appearance of a reflection of flying ducks in a mirror, for instance, a hole was cut in the wall of the set and a separate room built behind it.

The aim of the campaign is not to generate instant sales, but rather to build on an impression created over a long period. At the same time Gallaher is mindful of the fact that the brand's sales have not only recovered in the past year, but have grown to make it the second best seller of all cigarette brands and well on the way to matching leadership from Player's No 6.

Having, it believes, successfully weathered the storm caused by a first stage in tax changes to harmonize the British structure with that of the EEC, Gallaher is looking to the image built up through advertising to carry the brand through the next difficult stage due to take effect next year.

In tackling packaging as well as tobacco the new structure is likely to make Benson & Hedges Special Filter dearer than its rivals because of its relatively expensive gold pack.

Patricia Tisdall

## Dependence, games and the executive

The status and role of managers in Britain are now well on the way to becoming middle class obsessions. Successive years of incandescent policy have undermined their financial position; the assertiveness of trade unions has eroded many of their prerogatives, and there is a profound sense of unease in many managers.

The time is clearly ripe for the emergence of a new strand of literature helping to explain their growing alienation. Two recent titles, *Alastair Mann's The Rise and Fall of the British Manager*, and *Michael Maccoy's The Gamesman*, offer valuable insights and stimulating reading.

In Mr Mann's case the relevance to the British scene is direct and explicit, in Mr Maccoy's it is indirect, and depends on the extent to which one feels that an American analysis can be transposed to this side of the Atlantic.

Mr Mann sees the present crisis of management as being a reflection of a serious national disorder. He believes that British society has rejected the masculine qualities and the willingness to fight which were the basis of the more feminine quality of caring.

The masculine attributes have been displaced into alien sub-cultures which are devoted to the pursuit of sectional interests, among which are industry and management. Industry is viewed as being a hard, rigorous world. This split between the dominant culture of

The authors are both implicitly accepting that one of the most difficult problems of modern society is to obtain the proper balance between dependence and aggression

society and that of industry has led to a profound distrust of "large organizations in pursuit of profit".

But it has also created problems for the individual manager who, as he travels to work, is at the same time commuting between cultures. Mr Mann sees the true, but often unrecognized, role of management education and management development as being to assist managers, and notably those at middle and junior level, towards a reconciliation of these psychological needs with the role at work.

Essentially, however, he sees the solution of present problems as coming only through an ending of the dichotomy between the two cultures but above all with society adopting some of the tougher values of industry. His model is Sweden, where he sees a tough-minded search for efficiency allied to a concern for the individual.

But if Mr Mann finds the kernel of the problem in society at large, Mr Maccoy finds grounds for criticizing the environment within large corporations.

On the basis of long interviews with 250 managers in high technology companies in the United States, he has identified four categories of manager, according to their psychology and modes of behaviour.

The key category from which the leadership and dynamic quality comes, he has called the "gamesman". He is defined as someone who loves change and wants to influence its course. "He likes to take calculated risks and is fascinated by technique and new methods. He sees a developing project, human relations and his own career in terms of options and possibilities, as if it were a game."

Gamesmen are cooperative and are not overly destructive, but they lack passion and compassion. The nub of Mr Maccoy's analysis, and of his complaint, is that corporate work stimulates and rewards qualities of the heart, not of the head. Of America he says: "Careerism has emerged as the dominant national orientation; careerism results not only in constant anxiety, but also in an underdeveloped heart."

From there Mr Maccoy goes on to argue for the development of organizations which build on human qualities, though en route he discourages the work of those twin deities of liberal management, Douglas McGregor and Abraham Maslow.

Thus Mr Maccoy and Mr Mann are looking in opposite directions, the one arguing for more concrete working environment, the other for a less effete society.

But if one can make allowances for differences between the United States and Britain, it would probably be found that Mr Maccoy and Mr Mann were standing back to back on common ground, both implicitly accepting that one of the most difficult problems of modern society is to obtain the proper balance between rigour and softness, between dependence and aggression.

*The Rise and Fall of the British Manager* by Alastair Mann, published by Macmillan (£5.95). *The Gamesman* by Michael Maccoy, published by Secker and Warburg (£4.90).

RC

## Workings of Employment Protection Act

From Mr Barry I. Mordsey

Sir, Mr Francis (November 15) has referred to the injustices of the Employment Protection Act and has given us an example. He states that an employer has to prove his innocence before a tribunal; one can only assume, as he does not explain, that he is referring to the fact that the law requires an employer to show he acted reasonably when dismissing an employee.

This example, however, was not introduced by the Act but by earlier legislation. In any event the analogy of a criminal trial is hardly appropriate. Does Mr Francis want the burden of proof to be on the employee so that he has to show that the employer acted unreasonably? This is not any fairer, objectively.

He also states that the employer has no protection if he becomes involved in frivolous or malicious actions. If Mr Francis had checked the position a little more carefully he would have discovered that costs are awarded to any party where the other party has acted frivolously. Mr Francis may find labour legislation "pernicious", but our standards merely comply with the tribunals to protect that right.

Mr Simeon (November 15) asks a number of questions; first, regarding giving corresponding rights to employers where rights are given to unions. This is a strange concept as rights and duties are two different sides of the same coin, so that employers' rights are employers' duties. However, I always thought that, for example, employers were free to join employers' associations in the same way that employees can join unions.

Let us not exaggerate the supposedly one-sidedness of our laws. Employers can lawfully dismiss their employees if they are not fulfilling their duties, provided that they follow the correct procedure. Employers can dismiss strikers with impunity—so much for the right to

strike. The latest official figures show that two out of three applications for unfair dismissal are unsuccessful.

Secondly, Mr Simeon's refers to the imposition of conditions on employers, without a right of appeal, by bodies which are clearly not independent. I am not sure to which bodies he is referring, but if he means Acas, I think this is a considerable slur on a responsible body, containing representatives from both sides of industry and which is doing a very fine job in promoting orderly industrial relations.

Thirdly, he asks where trade unions alone have the right to appoint representatives to safety committees. This and the second question are hardly pertinent to the question of employment and small firms, but it should be realized that in Scandinavia the powers of safety representatives are much more extensive than here and employees are very heavily unionized. However, it is not seriously suggested that this kind of matter would deter employers from engaging workers.

Of course, the right not to be unfairly dismissed is the force motivating employees to go to licence renewal. It has to be sent or taken to any LVLO and not taken to a post office.

3. When someone wants to renew a licence and tell us at the same time that his registration details have changed, he or she should complete the appropriate parts of the form V10 and the registration document and send them both, together with the duty payable, insurance certificate, and, if necessary, vehicle tax certificate to any LVLO. A tax disc will be issued virtually by return and a new registration document will follow.

4. The V10 is distributed in large numbers through some 1,500 outlets, and it would be a very expensive business to replace it as soon as any of the details shown on it changed. Existing stocks are now, however, being replaced with a new printing showing the current rates of duty.

5. A new form V10, which will be much simpler and which will not become out of date so quickly, is being prepared and will be in use next year.

6. Eventually, LVLOs' addresses will be found in the appropriate telephone directory under "Department of Transport", but many of them are quite new so this is not yet so everywhere. The addresses will also be found in a leaflet called "Registering, licensing, insuring and taxing your vehicle", available free at LVLOs and, shortly, at post offices. I am sending a copy of this to Mrs Fielder, but in any case she would have received with her renewal reminder a leaflet giving the LVLOs' addresses.

Yours faithfully, J. A. FOWLES, Director, Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre, Longview Road, Chase, Swansea SA6 7JL, November 9.

Unfortunately, some of the resistance to longer academic courses for engineers is rooted in much earlier attitudes to educational reform in Britain. Some stems from the fact that Britain clings to a part-time technical education system for its professional engineers long after her competitors established fully vocational full-time systems.

Lord Brown's article (October 10) stressed that Britain's relative failure in product design was an organizational problem. Some of the difficulties inhibiting the development of university engineering departments are also organizational. It is indeed difficult to see how, within the present financial and organizational framework of the British university system, adequate resources could be found and applied to the development of professional schools of engineering capable of providing the longer courses of education and training needed. The support given by industrialists like Mr Liddlewood for such changes is therefore very encouraging.

Yours faithfully, A. W. J. CHISHOLM, 2 Little Smith Street, London SW1P 3DL, November 9, 1977.

## Vehicle licensing procedures

From the Director of the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre

Sir, Your reader Helena Fielder makes some fair points in her letter about vehicle licensing (November 8) and it may be helpful to her and your other readers if I comment on them. I should say at the outset that keeping track of the ownership and licensing position of some twenty million vehicles is a big enough task without our introducing any needless complications.

The reminder/renewal form sent from Swansea (V11) can be used, over a post office counter or at any local vehicle licensing office (LVLO), where the details given on the vehicle's registration document remain correct. About three-quarters of all vehicle licences are renewed in this way. There is no need to present the old disc or the registration document.

2. Where the details have changed, for example where the vehicle's owner has moved, the V11 cannot be used and should be discarded. A form V10, which is held in post offices and LVLOs is needed. Because this form serves some rather complex purposes in addition to licence renewal, it has to be sent or taken to any LVLO and not taken to a post office.

3. When someone wants to renew a licence and tell us at the same time that his registration details have changed, he or she should complete the appropriate parts of the form V10 and the registration document and send them both, together with the duty payable, insurance certificate, and, if necessary, vehicle tax certificate to any LVLO. A tax disc will be issued virtually by return and a new registration document will follow.

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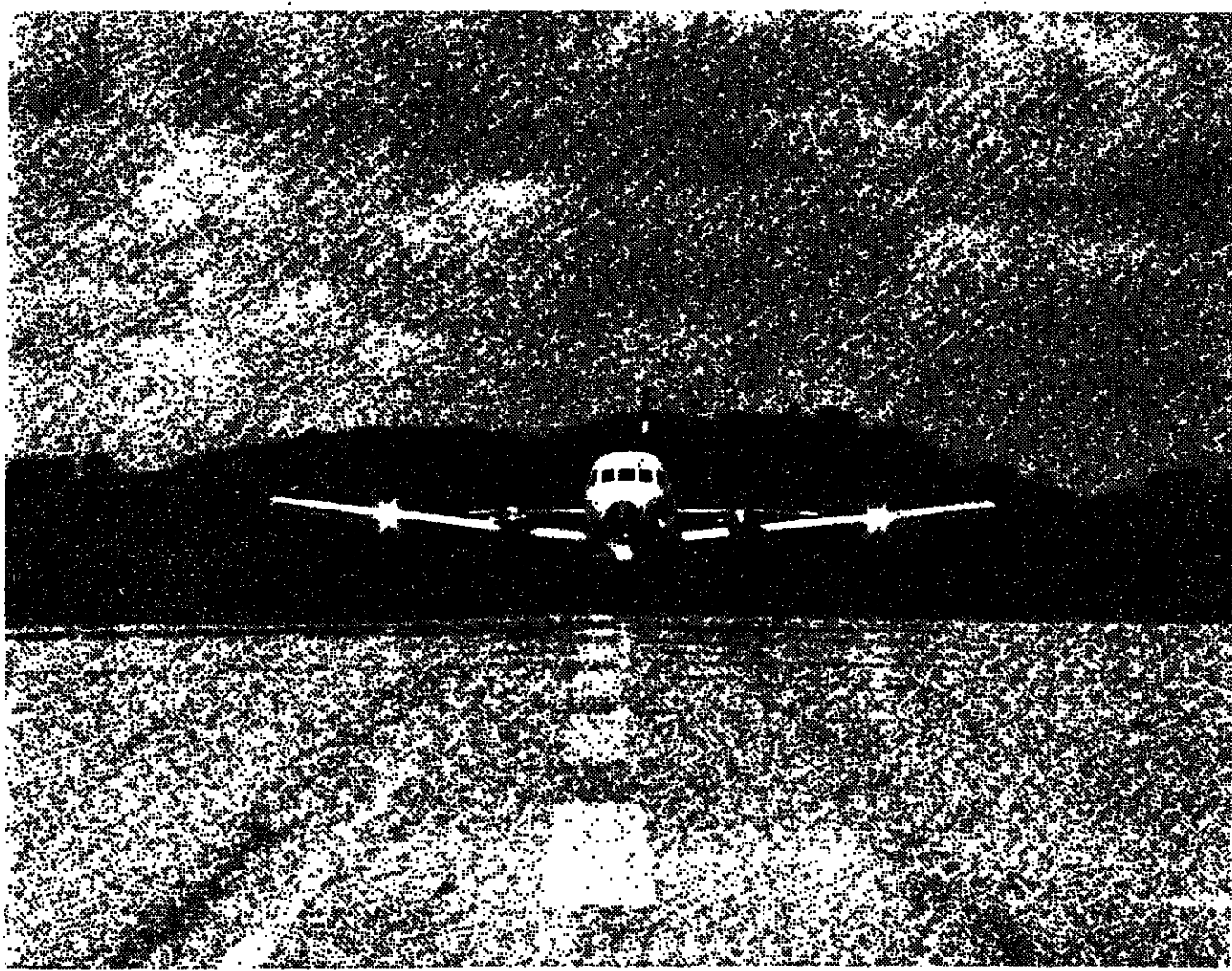
## Hongkong textile workers under pressure

From Professor P. B. Harris

Sir, In your Business Diary (11 November 8) you report the evidence of Britain's clothing workers to Professor Turner complaining of the exploitation of Hongkong's workers and their lack of an effective voice on the Legislative Council. At the same time the EEC is (with Britain active in squeezing its own colony) engaged in reducing textile quotas.

What if the workers of Hongkong use their representative voice to denounce the protectionism of Mr Jack Macgoogan's garment workers union which is depriving them of a living?

Yours faithfully, P. B. HARRIS, Professor and Head, Department of Political Science, University of Hongkong, November 11.



## Brazil: an economy at take-off.

May we introduce you?

The aircraft in our picture was designed and made in Brazil.

Does it surprise you to learn that Brazil has an aircraft industry? If so there could be other gaps in your knowledge—and you could be missing vital business opportunities in the country which is tipped to be the world's next industrial giant.

Brazil's economy has reached take-off. Last year the country turned out nearly a million motor vehicles, and 78,000 tractors. It has the only float-glass plant in South America. It is one of

the world's leading producers of cane sugar, bananas, edible beans, coffee and oranges. And in the Bank of Brazil it has Latin America's largest financial institution.

The size and importance of the Bank puts it in a unique position to introduce you to this vast market. We have all the facts at our finger-tips. We can help you with fiscal and company law. And we have a network of contacts in commerce and industry throughout the continent.

Call us soon.

**BANCO DO BRASIL S.A.**

London Branch 15/17 King Street, EC2P 2NA. Telephone 01-406 7101. Telex 9812381.

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## Hill Samuel Group

## Interim Statement

The profits of Hill Samuel Group Limited for the six months to 30th September 1977, before taking account of exchange differences and extraordinary items, are similar to those of the corresponding period of last year.

The Board has declared an interim dividend for the year ending 31st March 1978 of 1.675 net pence per share (last year 1.5p net) payable on 3rd January 1978 to shareholders whose names appear in the register of members on 18th November 1977. (For the year to 31st March 1977 there was a final dividend of 2.7655p net, making for the year as a whole 4.2655p net.)

Hill Samuel Group Limited  
100 Wood Street, London EC2P 2AJ





BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Nagging doubts in the market

Stock markets last week looked increasingly to be huddled in no man's land, totally uncertain as to whether their next significant move should be to advance or retreat.

While the prospect of a continuing fall in the annual rate of price increases over the next few months remains, together with the prospect of accelerating economic growth next spring, all kinds of doubts are now starting to show themselves. In particular, of course, there is mounting concern over the future of pay settlements and the trend in the money supply.

On the issue of pay, the market is showing signs of wavering. Initially, it tended to take the view that the economy could take an increase in earnings some way above the Government's 10 per cent guidelines, and was obviously encouraged as some of the early settlements started to look rather lower and rather more easily agreed than expected. Now that things are starting to get rather tougher, and now that sterling has floated, there is not only less optimism in general but growing doubts as to the capacity of the economy to absorb earnings increases significantly into double figures.

More disturbing, however, particularly to the gilt market, is the trend in the money supply. Everyone knew the October money supply figures were not going to be good. Everyone suspects that the November figures will be bad too, since the decision to call a halt to pumping sterling into the foreign exchange market was not taken until well into the November banking month. What people are increasingly worried about now, particularly after the latest signs that bank lending may be accelerating, is whether or not there is any possibility of moving back inside the 13 per cent growth ceiling by next spring.

The real fear on this score is quite simply that the Government, rather than risk straining an incipient economic recovery, will be content to allow some kind of overshoot. Arguably, it could be rather short sighted of the market to take too strict a view of the situation. The problem, however, is that the Government may be asking for legway at just the moment when the pattern of pay settlements may once again be suggesting that excessive monetary growth is dogging it, and at a moment in the cycle when the annual rate of price increases may be suggesting that the money supply should be tightened, not loosened.

### Accountants

#### Easing the burden on small companies

The accountancy profession may soon put firm proposals to the Department of Trade to remove small companies from the current requirement of a full-scale audit. The department has already said that it is considering a three-tier level of corporate disclosure, but it has waited for more concrete suggestions before making any move on changing audit requirements. Opinion among accountants, however, is still sharply divided. The English Institute seems to be chafing at the bit to remove onerous audit requirements from small companies, but at the moment is carrying neither the Scottish Institute nor the important Association of Certified Accountants, whose members are particularly concerned with small company audits, with it.

In fact the Certified Accountants have presented the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies with alternative proposals, which support the idea of separate disclosure requirements for different size of company, but strongly plead for the retention of a full audit as a necessary check to limited liability.

Mr Richard Wilkes, chairman of the Auditing Practices Committee, is to meet the Certified Accountants to convince them they are wrong. If he succeeds he will make the task of his own committee much easier. Whereas it is possible to exempt smaller companies from following standards on the way financial information is to be presented, it is far more difficult to have dual auditing standards without bringing about, *de facto*, the state of affairs the Certified Accountants wish to avoid.

Why, then, not accept the situation, ally differing size categories with disclosure and auditing, and let the small company off an

increasingly onerous audit?

This, roughly, is what is proposed. APC would like to give companies with less than 50 employees and £250,000 annual turnover, the opportunity to opt out of a full audit through a vote at an annual meeting.

There could either be a requirement for a full audit unless a vote was taken against it, or vice versa. Those who opted out would have an accountants' report which would say the accounts have been drawn up in accordance with accounting standards but the information on which they are based has not been verified.

Objections to a "report" or "review" on these lines could come from banks, finance houses and the Inland Revenue who may rely on an auditors' opinion. Certainly a change of company law would be necessary if small companies were to be exempted from the need for an auditors' report.

First it is arguable whether it could be done until the EEC Fourth Directive on company law, which would modify the onerous First Directive, is finally issued.

More importantly it would be likely to lead to a splitting of the accountancy profession into two. It is an idea which stirs beneath the Cross Report on disciplinary procedures within the profession in its distinction between matters of "public" and "private" interest and is already a fact in the United States. It is likely that the EEC ultimately will require the auditing of large public companies to be carried out by auditors with certain qualifications.

### Trafalgar House New directions

Reflecting on Trafalgar House's development in his last annual statement, chairman, Mr Nigel Brookes remarked that "we never bought anything we did not intend to integrate, manage and hold indefinitely". So in the unlikely event of the leopard having changed its spots, there is somewhere



Mr Nigel Brookes, chairman of Trafalgar House, beneath the recent buying spree—Beaverbrook Newspapers, Morgan-Gumpian and a keen interest in the troubled Fairway Group's non-aviation interests—a game plan to meet Trafalgar's long-term objectives of strengthening the balance sheet and asset backing as well as improving the quality and quantity of earnings.

Ever since Trafalgar got a grip on its gearing and turned its back on big-time property development, it has been apparent that the group has had takeover ambitions to map out an ever-widening cash flow. Total debt is still over £200m, or nearly double shareholders' funds, but with spending on fixed assets of only £43m, pre-tax profits running at some £40-£45m and further property depleting well in hand as well as sales from the Maritime Fruit Carriers deal there is little chance of Trafalgar being blown off course from its five-year plan of reducing debt to only £50m.

Even with this financial muscle, however, there are obvious difficulties in today's takeover scene in making one large acquisition. The group has to look at a rather piecemeal way than it would probably have liked.

For the moment, Mr Brookes has apparently identified the publishing world as a fertile area of development while if he can get Fairway's engineering interests that at a cost of £15m with profits running at perhaps £4m a year will win its face quickly. The only snag is that Sir Charles Hardie, Fairway's receiver, did not appear such a willing seller to judge by his comments yesterday as Sir Max Aitken.

## The spending options posed by North Sea revenue

Hugh Stephenson

It is recorded that on one occasion, faced with two totally opposing policy prescriptions on a particular issue, that master politician, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, delivered the Delphic instruction that someone should "try to weave them together".

By all accounts the same is being tried with the proposed Government "green paper" on what to do when the North Sea oil revenues come rolling in.

The difficulty of blending Mr Bean's draft with sections prepared by the Treasury has resulted in the publication of a public discussion document, being further postponed. Instead, a much more tentative document is being circulated for the time being within the Labour Party.

A version of that internal discussion document has been heavily leaked already. On that basis, the range of options exposed does not seem to go much beyond what was suggested in the series of articles which we ran in these columns two weeks ago.

The only major red herring that seems condemned to be dragged back and forth across the debate is the issue of exchange rate policy and exchange controls themselves.

The myth is being perpetuated that exchange controls in themselves have something directly to do with domestic employment levels.

This is thought to follow from the analysis that, if money is kept forcibly in the country, it will be used to create more domestic jobs than would otherwise be the case; while, if exchange controls are lifted and money leaves the country, jobs—or at least job prospects—will leave with it.

This view continues to be deeply held, despite the total absence of any evidence that British companies find exchange controls a major impediment to their establishing overseas manufacturing facilities at the present time.

Equally, it is wrong to think that exchange controls are going to be decided one way or another in settling the level of the exchange rate in the medium term. The fact is that, if this country continues to run a substantial surplus on its current account, the

upward pressure on the pound will continue.

In such circumstances, it is entirely possible that a public relaxation of exchange controls would be taken as a sign of underlying strength and, perversely, lead to a net inflow rather than a net outflow of funds.

Either way, the current account will be the dominant force on the exchange rate, far outweighing anything that might be decided as a deliberate act of policy as to whether the rate should go up, go down, or stay about the same.

So much for the effect of the North Sea oil on the external accounts. The second range of options covers what the Government might do with the revenues, which becomes substantial after 1980. There is much to be said about the importance of not "frittering away" the benefits of the North Sea.

The range of options, however, quite simply boils down to the fact that, given substantial oil revenues, the Government of the day will be able to finance a given level of expenditure with lower general taxes; or a higher level of expenditure with a given level

of general taxes; or some combination of the two.

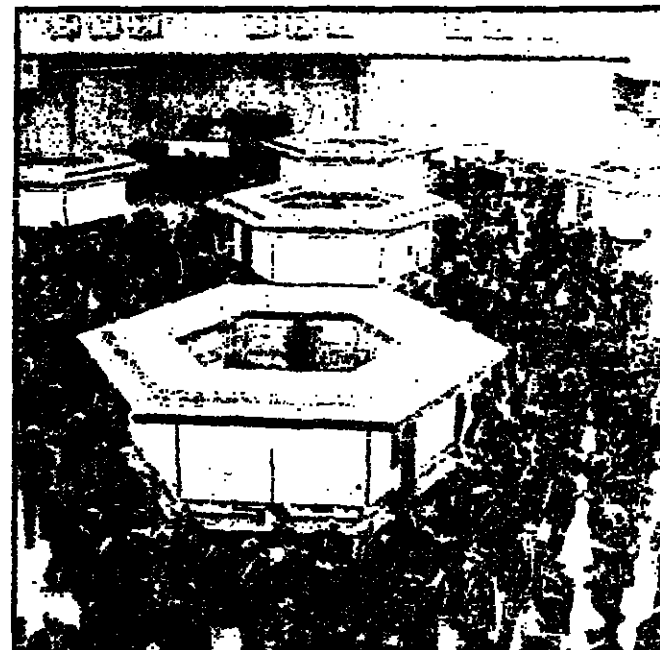
There is no way in which levels of capital investment in the private sector will rise until the economy expands to take up existing spare capacity. The issue, therefore, in both the public and the personal sector of the economy resolves itself to one of how much of the extra resources being made available should be devoted to consumption and how much to longer term investment.

This applies most obviously to personal tax cuts, which might be expected to feed most directly into increased consumption. But it applies equally to any increase in public expenditure that might take place.

All of this involves, a far more fundamental debate about economic and social priorities than all the nonsense about exchange controls.

## The stock market under stress

This is the first of three articles discussing the pressures for change in the British and American securities markets. Tomorrow the position of the stock jobbers in London will be considered and on Wednesday the changes affecting the American market will be discussed.



Floor of the London Stock Exchange

The Stock Exchange has been called a club and it resembles this. It is a place where a small group of men, known as stock jobbers and stock brokers, meet.

The aim is to provide a market in which shares can be bought or sold and which gives those in whose stock it is invested a means of disposing of it.

As such, it has an important function—two important, many people say, for it is left simply to the 46 elected members of the Stock Exchange Council.

For the past five years Stock Exchange members have been in a state of flux. It is not an efficient mechanism for moving funds into and out of the market and it has taken a progressively stronger line on regulation of the market place and those who use it.

But in doing all this it assumed that rules would remain intact, or at least that changes in the rules would evolve, rather than be forced through by outside influences. It was quite wrong to assume that, however, for not only are statutory authorities seeking to force changes in the rules, but even members of the Stock Exchange itself are trying to bend them.

This naturally threatens the Stock Exchange's ability to regulate its own affairs and, despite pressure efforts to improve self-regulation of the financial system, the spectre of a British version of the American Securities and Exchange Commission, which would be so discredited to the Stock Exchange for one, is still there.

What the Stock Exchange

failed to see sufficiently clearly was that the economic and social pressures which have forced the small investor into retreat and laid the corporate fixed interest market low, combined with political pressure, would begin seriously to damage the fabric of the market system. The symptoms are a growing institutional domination of the market; real questions about the future of stock jobbing, even within which is a central characteristic of the British market; and cries of "monopoly" accompanied by two specific official inquiries into the mechanics of the market, one into the commission charging structure and the other effectively into the jobbing system itself.

The outcome is that a special chairman's committee has been formed to advise the position and advise the council on what action should be taken.

As it happens—and this may be coincidence—the same sort of situation exists in the United States. There the SEC has been pushing through profound changes, most notably the abolition of fixed brokerage commissions two and half years ago and the present move to abolish Rule 390 of the New York Stock Exchange, which would mean the end of its dealing monopoly under which any trade by its members in a listed security must be shown to the NYSE floor first.

The effect of this is that the SEC is proposing to open up to American investors the opportunity to deal in any one of several competitive markets, of which one—always assuming it can remain competitive—will be the NYSE floor.

Members of the Stock Exchange in London have watched events in America with horror. There are too many of them with the position here for comfort.

Since the advent of nego-

tiated commissions in Wall Street in May, 1975, more than 150 brokerage houses have either merged or gone out of business. Now the SEC's proposed ending of exchange monopolies and moves towards an automated, central market seem to threaten the rationale of having trading floors at all.

Here, too, the commission-charging structure is under threat. The Office of Fair Trading has started a process which could put the Stock Exchange commissions in front of the Restrictive Practices Court. It is also looking at the Stock Exchange's rule book, a fundamental of which enforces the distinction between jobber and broker—respectively principal and agent.

The Stock Exchange has said that it will fight any move towards negotiated rates, on the basis of what has happened in New York. But the difficulty is that nothing has occurred on Wall Street that particularly worries the SEC. Fierce competition for business has been forced on the broking community there and

the reverberations are still being felt. If at the end of the day the American investor gets a more efficient and, in many cases, cheaper service, the SEC will have achieved its aim, even if the institutional investor has benefited at the expense of the individual.

The fear is that the same sort of thinking could begin to take hold here. Institutional investors may agree now and straw poles suggest that this is so—that negotiated rates could wreck the market as we know it by rendering the jobbing system obsolete and at the same time forcing brokers to compete for business in a cut-throat climate. But if negotiated rates are imposed, institutions would be bound to seek the best deal on behalf of the people who invest with them. In the case of some institutions that would, indeed, be their fiduciary duty.

So, under competitive commissions, the choice for an institution would be between quick and cheap trading in service offered by the so called execution boutiques in New

York and a total package—competitive rates, plus something else, usually top class research work.

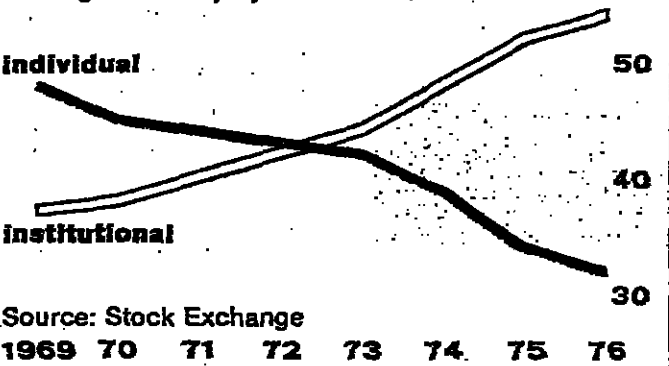
The decision for an institution would therefore be a fairly clear one, whereas most adopt a policy of sharing their commissions among as wide a range of brokers as possible, partly on the view that they prefer to keep as many options open as possible and partly because they believe that they are helping to keep the market intact.

Yet few people even within the Stock Exchange would deny that there seems an impossible task. So many factors, let alone another bear market, suggest that membership of the Stock Exchange is bound to contract during the next five years. The crucial question is whether that contraction can be achieved in an orderly atmosphere.

Andrew Goodrick-Clarke  
Financial Editor

### AN INSTITUTIONAL MARKET

Percentage growth of institutional holdings in the equity market



## Business Diary in Europe: Coming to terms with the Poles

The Department of Industry is pulling out the stops today to celebrate the conclusion of the £115m Anglo-Polish shipbuilding deal. The signing ceremony is taking place in the elegant surroundings of Lancaster House, the government showplace, followed by a reception.

Orders of this size don't come the way of the British shipbuilding industry very often and in spite of those critics who complain that the Poles are being handed over-generous terms, Eric Varley, the Industry Secretary, and one of his ministers, Gerald Kaufman, will be present today to wave the flag.

They will be joined by Michael Casey, chief executive of British Shipbuilders who has been doing much of the haggling with the Poles in recent months, and Ron Dearing, the deputy secretary at the Industry Department in charge of shipbuilding.

A delegation of Polish technical experts was in London last week to finalise the deal and they will be joined today by senior Polish ministers.

The two sides have been negotiating since last December and, according to British Shipbuilders, have become the best of friends. There is a good chance of the deal, still in less formal, get-together tonight.

But after today's congratulations have died away, the Prime Minister, who got lots of applause at the Labour Party conference when he announced the imminent conclusion of the deal, still will have to face the scepticism of some MPs.

One Tory member has accused the Government of

winning "these Communist orders" only by dint of subsidies.

Almost £30m of taxpayers' money from the shipbuilding intervention fund, is being poured in and the Poles are getting what amounts to 100 per cent credit.

Another question is who is going to build the 24 ships? The answer may leave workers in many of the country's hard-pressed ship yards angry and disappointed.

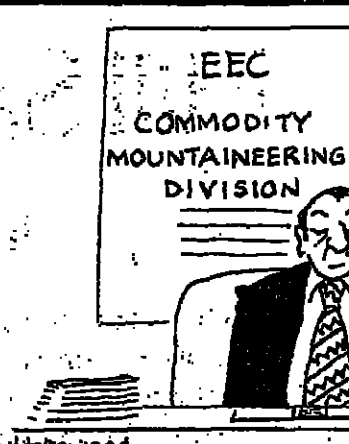
There are already suggestions that up to 15 of the ships could go to one yard, Govan, which would upset workers in many other yards in the recently nationalised industry.

Officially it is Casey who decides what goes where, but with a general election brewing, it will be surprising if there isn't as much political interest in the fulfilling as in the winning of the order.

Hopes that Britain can carve a share in the development of the Caspian Sea are pinned on the visit by the First Deputy Minister of the Russian Oil Industry, Viktor Mischertich, who arrived in Scotland last night.

Mischertich heads a delegation of more than a dozen Russian Government officials at talks today with the International Offshore Consortium (IOC) made up of BP, Brown and Root, and Wm. Watson & Co. The consortium is planning to develop the offshore oil industry, and the venue on Thursday will be the venue on Thursday.

McDermott with Mitsubishi are contenders for the Baku contracts, but the strongest bid



Hollowood

ulate that Britain could win half of them, yet another indication that British oil interests are not confined to the North Sea.

The Russian party will be flown by helicopter to the BP Farley field which is producing about half a million barrels of oil a day.

On Wednesday the Russians are to tour the Highlands Fabricators yards at Nigg, on Cromarty Firth, where three pre-fabricated and a fourth is under construction, all for the British sector of the North Sea.

The McDermott yard at Ardersier near Inverness, one of the most successful yards at providing offshore ironmongery for the overseas oil industry, will be the venue on Thursday, said, Friday.

McDermott with Mitsubishi are contenders for the Baku contracts, but the strongest bid

so far is said to have come from the IOC consortium.

It seems you can't keep Herfordshire Chamber of Commerce down—not for long, anyway.

Earlier this year they had the enterprising idea of running a daily air service between Luton and Brussels for the exclusive use of its member companies, especially exporters.

No go, said the Civil Aviation Authority. Neither the chamber nor its operating company, Cubair, an air charter company, held the necessary licences.

Last week, however, the chamber—or a small part of it—took to the air for a series of short demonstration flights in the Piper Navajo aircraft they intend to use for the daily service.

Copenhagen's reputation as the EEC's answer to Sodom and Gomorrah is in need of some revision. The number of pornographic book shops has declined—though those that remain cater to an unparalleled range of sexual curiosity, including a peculiar Danish fascination with the libidinous possibilities of fish. Instead of legal restriction on these shops the Danes wisely allow good old market forces to run their course with the result that oversupply has been followed by a drop in demand. The famous "live sex shows", which drew the mesmerised attention of Lord Longford a few years back, have virtually disappeared. The authorities hit on the cunning wheeze of ruling that such shows can only be staged on premises registered as theatres. This effectively put most of the back-alley operators out of business as they could not afford the installation of toilets, fire escapes and other facilities to qualify for theatrical status.

## "Kwik Save plans to start trading in South and South East of England"

Extracts from the Chairman's Statement

Turnover increased from £91.9m in 1976 to £152.4m in the year just ended, an improvement of 66%.

Net profit before taxation amounted to £8,610,000 compared with £5,251,000 in the previous year, an increase of 64%. 31 new stores were opened to make a total of 124 stores at 27th August, 1977, thereby increasing the net selling area to 824,000 sq. ft. (1976 641,000 sq. ft.). Our expansion in the present financial year will continue again mainly in the Midlands, South West and South Wales.

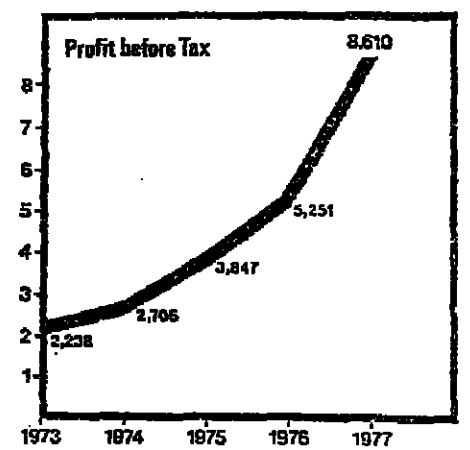
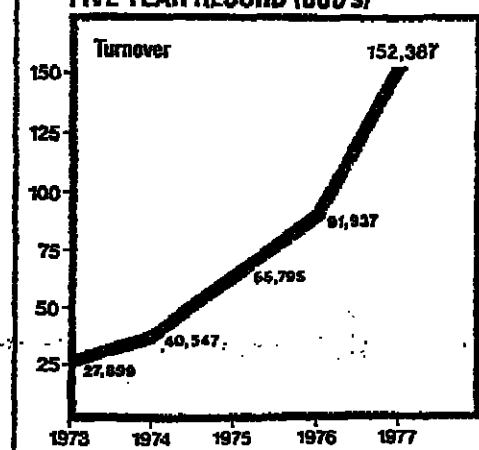
To meet this expansion, we have acquired a

long leasehold site at Swindon, close to the M4 Motorway, on which we are building a fourth warehouse due to open in July 1978. This warehouse will facilitate our expansion into the South West and our plans to start trading in the South and South East of England.

Sales to date show a satisfactory increase in monetary and volume terms. The increase in our market share and in our profits indicates that our policy of permanent discounts on all goods sold remains in the interest both of our customers and our shareholders.

## "We look forward to another good year"

FIVE YEAR RECORD (000's)



KWIK SAVE DISCOUNT GROUP LIMITED

Copies of the report and accounts available from the Company Secretary, Warren Drive, Prescote, Chwyd LL19 7IU







## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

ICI, Tesco  
Assoc News,  
Powell D  
& Hambros

**MONDAY:** Interim—Brazilian SA, Dowling (C. H. HAT Group, Lockyer (Thos) Higgs, Wilson, Walton Eng. Firms—Australia and New Zealand Bank, Cambrian and General Sec, Yorkshire and Lancashire.

**TUESDAY:** Interim—Bradford Property (C. H. HAT Group, Lockyer (Thos) Higgs, Wilson, Walton Eng. Firms—Australia and New Zealand Bank, Cambrian and General Sec, Yorkshire and Lancashire.

**WEDNESDAY:** Interim—Bradford Property (C. H. HAT Group, Lockyer (Thos) Higgs, Wilson, Walton Eng. Firms—Australia and New Zealand Bank, Cambrian and General Sec, Yorkshire and Lancashire.

## Results this week

**WEDNESDAY:** Interim—Bradford Property (C. H. HAT Group, Lockyer (Thos) Higgs, Wilson, Walton Eng. Firms—Australia and New Zealand Bank, Cambrian and General Sec, Yorkshire and Lancashire.

**THURSDAY:** Interim—Bradford Property (C. H. HAT Group, Lockyer (Thos) Higgs, Wilson, Walton Eng. Firms—Australia and New Zealand Bank, Cambrian and General Sec, Yorkshire and Lancashire.

**FRIDAY:** Interim—Bradford Property (C. H. HAT Group, Lockyer (Thos) Higgs, Wilson, Walton Eng. Firms—Australia and New Zealand Bank, Cambrian and General Sec, Yorkshire and Lancashire.

## Desmond Quigley

**PROVEMENT:** Interim—Bradford Property (C. H. HAT Group, Lockyer (Thos) Higgs, Wilson, Walton Eng. Firms—Australia and New Zealand Bank, Cambrian and General Sec, Yorkshire and Lancashire.

## Freight report

**Freight:** The blossoming of vice rates in the shipping market has been noticed by the market. The rate for the first time in a long time has been noticed by the market. The rate for the first time in a long time has been noticed by the market.

## Field back

**Field back:** The blossoming of vice rates in the shipping market has been noticed by the market. The rate for the first time in a long time has been noticed by the market.

## Exports up

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## Bank Base Rates

Bank	Base Rate
ABN Bank	6.00%
Bank of America	6.00%
Bank of England	6.00%
Bank of France	6.00%
Bank of Germany	6.00%
Bank of Italy	6.00%
Bank of Japan	6.00%
Bank of Spain	6.00%
Bank of Sweden	6.00%
Bank of Switzerland	6.00%
Bank of the Netherlands	6.00%
Bank of Belgium	6.00%
Bank of Greece	6.00%
Bank of Portugal	6.00%
Bank of Turkey	6.00%
Bank of Argentina	6.00%
Bank of Brazil	6.00%
Bank of Chile	6.00%
Bank of Colombia	6.00%
Bank of Ecuador	6.00%
Bank of Venezuela	6.00%

## M.J.H. Nightingale &amp; Co. Limited

**M.J.H. Nightingale & Co. Limited:** The Over-the-Counter Market

Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close
2200 Apsprong Ord	149	+1	142	100	8.2	
370 Apsprong 181% CULS	149	+1	142	100	8.2	
98 Apsprong 181% CULS	149	+1	142	100	8.2	
430 Apsprong 181% CULS	149	+1	142	100	8.2	
288 Apsprong 181% CULS	149	+1	142	100	8.2	
430 Apsprong 181% CULS	149	+1	142	100	8.2	
288 Apsprong 181% CULS	149	+1	142	100	8.2	
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430 Apsprong 181% CULS	149	+1	142	100	8.2	

## BOURNMOUTH CORPORATION

**BOURNMOUTH CORPORATION:** £5 million

**8% Redeemable Stock 1977/78**

The above stock will be redeemed by Bournemouth Borough Council on 22nd February, 1978. Letters have been sent to all stockholders to that effect.

Coffee producers prod the ICO  
into a review of price levels

Although leading coffee producers seem to have backed away from their earlier efforts to force up world prices, they have at least induced the International Coffee Organization with a sense of urgency on the subject.

After a meeting in London of more than 20 leading producers, the executive board of the ICO has now decided that it will start a review of the price level which should trigger a review of the international coffee market.

## Commodities

the present arrangements under the agreement would come in when the ICO reference price falls to between 77 and 78 cents a lb. The latest price is over 185 cents.

It is now clear that the major producers have realized that the limit sales so far to lift prices are unacceptable to consumers and would constitute a threat to the continued existence of the ICO. Some producers have also pointed out that such action is not needed at a time when export countries have limited supplies.

## World sugar output up 4 per cent

World sugar output up 4 per cent in 1976-77 to record 90.7m tonnes, says the United States Department of Agriculture's foreign agricultural service.

## The service's production forecasts for major producers

in thousands of tonnes (1976-77 brackets) were: Cuba 6,000 (5,800); Dominican Republic 1,400 (1,361); Mexico 2,800 (2,697); United States 5,625 (5,455); Argentina 1,000 (950); Brazil 8,600 (7,500); France 3,913 (2,068); West Germany 2,740 (2,734); Italy 1,190 (1,750); Spain 1,305 (1,445); Britain 1,000 (773); Poland 2,200 (2,000); Soviet Union 9,300 (7,350); China 2,750 (2,600); Taiwan 1,000 (1,123); India 5,000 (6,040); Indonesia 1,200 (1,150).

## Wallace Jackson

Commodities Editor

## Eurobond prices (yields and premiums)

As at Nov 18, 1977	US \$ STRAIGHTS	Offer Price	Yield	Premium
100% 1982	100.00	100.00	7.81	0.00
100% 1983	100.00	100.00	7.81	0.00
100% 1984	100.00	100.00	7.81	0.00
100% 1985	100.00	100.00	7.81	0.00
100% 1986	100.00	100.00	7.81	0.00
100% 1987	100.00	100.00	7.81	0.00
100% 1988	100.00	100.00	7.81	0.00
100% 1989	100.00	100.00	7.81	0.00
100% 1990	100.00	100.00	7.81	0.00
100% 1991	100.00	100.00	7.81	0.00

## Weekly list of fixed interest stocks

Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Open	Close
100% 1982	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100% 1983	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100% 1984	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100% 1985	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100% 1986	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100% 1987	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100% 1988	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100% 1989	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100% 1990	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
100% 1991	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

## More share prices

The following will be added to the London and Regional Share Price List tomorrow and will be published daily in Business News:

Commercial & Industrial  
English Television "A"  
Anglo Overseas Investments  
Property  
Mucklow A. & J.

## COWIE GROUP

Burge and Company have placed with institutional and private investors 2m shares (17.5 per cent of the ordinary capital) of the group's subsidiary, Cowie Investments Ltd.

## C. ITOH

Arrangements have been completed for the issue by C. Itoh and Co. (B.K.) International of US\$15m 8 per cent guaranteed notes, due 1984, at issue price of 99 per cent. The notes are being offered through an international syndicate managed by Daiwa Securities Co. Ltd. as lead manager.

## SCHLUMBERGER

Schlumberger has formed in the United Kingdom Schlumberger Measurement Control (UK) which has acquired Sengano Weston and the Solatron Electronic Group under members within the Schlumberger group.

## Unit Trust Prices—change on the week F7 Index change on week 480.5 - 20.5 (4.2)

Unit Trust	Price	Change	Unit Trust	Price	Change
100% 1982	100.00	0.00	100% 1983	100.00	0.00
100% 1984	100.00	0.00	100% 1985	100.00	0.00
100% 1986	100.00	0.00	100% 1987	100.00	0.00
100% 1988	100.00	0.00	100% 1989	100.00	0.00
100% 1990	100.00	0.00	100% 1991	100.00	0.00
100% 1992	100.00	0.00	100% 1993	100.00	0.00
100% 1994	100.00	0.00	100% 1995	100.00	0.00
100% 1996	100.00	0.00	100% 1997	100.00	0.00
100% 1998	100.00	0.00	100% 1999	100.00	0.00
100% 2000	100.00	0.00	100% 2001	100.00	0.00
100% 2002	100.00	0.00	100% 2003	100.00	0.00
100% 2004	100.00	0.00	100% 2005	100.00	0.00
100% 2006	100.00	0.00	100% 2007	100.00	0.00
100% 2008	100.00	0.00	100% 2009	100.00	0.00
100% 2010	100.00	0.00	100% 2011	100.00	0.00
100% 2012	100.00	0.00	100% 2013	100.00	0.00
100% 2014	100.00	0.00	100% 2015	100.00	0.00
100% 2016	100.00	0.00	100% 2017	100.00	0.00
100% 2018	100.00	0.00	100% 2019	100.00	0.00
100% 2020	100.00	0.00	100% 2021	100.00	0.00
100% 2022	100.00	0.00	100% 2023	100.00	0.00
100% 2024	100.00	0.00	100% 2025	100.00	0.00
100% 2026	100.00	0.00	100% 2027	100.00	0.00
100% 2028	100.00	0.00	100% 2029	100.00	0.00
100% 2030	100.00	0.00	100% 2031	100.00	0.00
100% 2032	100.00	0.00	100% 2033	100.00	0.00
100% 2034	100.00	0.00	100% 2035	100.00	0.00
100% 2036	100.00	0.00	100% 2037	100.00	0.00
100% 2038	100.00	0.00	100% 2039	100.00	0.00
100% 2040	100.00	0.00	100% 2041	100.00	0.00
100% 2042	100.00	0.00	100% 2043	100.00	0.00
100% 2044	100.00	0.00	100% 2045	100.00	0.00
100% 2046	100.00	0.00	100% 2047	100.00	0.00
100% 2048	100.00	0.00	100% 2049	100.00	0.00
100% 2050	100.00	0.00	100% 2051	100.00	0.00
100% 2052	100.00	0.00	100% 2053	100.00	0.00
100% 2054	100.00	0.00	100% 2055	100.00	0.00
100% 2056	100.00	0.00	100% 2057	100.00	0.00
100% 2058	100.00	0.00	100% 2059	100.00	0.00
100% 2060	100.00	0.00	100% 2061	100.00	0.00
100% 2062	100.00	0.00	100% 2063	100.00	0.00
100% 2064	100.00	0.00	100% 2065	100.00	0.00
100% 2066	100.00	0.00	100% 2067	100.00	0.00
100% 2068	100.00	0.00	100% 2069	100.00	0.00
100% 2070	100.00	0.00	100% 2071	100.00	0.00
100% 2072	100.00	0.00	100% 2073	100.00	0.00
100% 2074	100.00	0.00	100% 2075	100.00	0.00
100% 2076	100.00	0.00	100% 2077	100.00	0.00
100% 2078	100.00	0.00	100% 2079	100.00	0.00
100% 2080	100.00	0.00	100% 2081	100.00	0.00
100% 2082	100.00	0.00	100% 2083	100.00	0.00
100% 2084	100.00	0.00	100% 2085	100.00	0.00
100% 2086	100.00	0.00	100% 2087	100.00	0.00
100% 2088	100.00	0.00	100% 2089	100.00	0.00
100% 2090	100.00	0.00	100% 2091	100.00	0.00
100% 2092	100.00	0.00	100% 2093	100.00	0.00
100% 2094	100.00	0.00	100% 2095	100.00	0.00
100% 2096	100.00	0.00	100% 2097	100.00	0.00
100% 2098	100.00	0.00	100% 2099	100.00	0.00
100% 2100	100.00	0.00	100% 2101	100.00	0.00
100% 2102	100.00	0.00	100% 2103	100.00	0.00
100% 2104	100.00	0.00	100% 2105	100.00	0.00
100% 2106	100.00	0.00	100% 2107	100.00	0.00
100% 2108	100.00	0.00	100% 2109	100.00	0.00
100% 2110	100.00	0.00	100% 2111	100.00	0.00
100% 2112	100.00	0.00	100% 2113	100.00	0.00
100% 2114	100.00	0.00	100% 2115	100.00	0.00
100% 2116	100.00	0.00	100% 2117	100.00	0.00
100% 2118	100.00	0.00	100% 2119	100.00	0.00
100% 2120	100.00	0.00	100% 2121	100.00	0.00
100% 2122	100.00	0.00	100% 2123	100.00	0.00
100% 2124	100.00	0.00	100% 2125	100.00	0.00
100% 2126	100.00	0.00	100% 2127	100.00	0.00
100% 2128	100.00	0.00	100% 2129	100.00	0.00
100% 2130	100.00	0.00	100% 2131	100.00	0.00
100% 2132	100.00	0.00	100% 2133	100.00	0.00
100% 2134	100.00	0.00	100% 2135	100.00	0.00
100% 2136	100.00	0.00	100% 2137	100.00	0.00
100% 2138	100.00	0.00	100% 2139	100.00	0.00
100% 2140	100.00	0.00	100% 2141	100.00	0.00
100% 2142	100.00	0.00	100% 2143	100.00	0.00
100% 2144	100.00	0.00	100% 2145	100.00	0.00
100% 2146	100.00	0.00	100% 2147	100.00	0.00
100% 2148	100.00	0.00	100% 2149	100.00	0.00
100% 2150	100.00	0.00	100% 2151	100.00	0.00
100% 2152	100.00	0.00	100% 2153	100.00	0.00
100% 2154	100.00	0.00	100% 21		







## Educational &amp; Public Appointments

## THE OPEN UNIVERSITY

## Regional Director (London)

Applications are invited for the post of Regional Director (London), the Open University, senior responsible officer for the London Region which comprises the Greater London Area. The person appointed will be concerned with the implementation of the University's educational policy in the London Region, including the recruitment and supervision of personnel and the coordination of the University's educational activities with other educational institutions in the region. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of five years' experience in a senior educational post, preferably in a university or college, and to have a good knowledge of the London Region. The salary will be in the range of £12,000 to £15,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, Open University, Milton Keynes, Bucks. MK8 9AL, by 15 December 1977.

## St. Mary's Hospital Medical School (University of London)

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR — METABOLIC UNIT**

Applications are invited for the post which carries Clinical Lecturer Status. The post is available from 1 April 1978 and is held in the Metabolic Unit, St. Mary's Hospital, London. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Unit, including the supervision of staff and the coordination of research and clinical activities. The salary will be in the range of £12,000 to £15,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, London W2 1PG, by 15 December 1977.

## UNIVERSITY OF YORK

**VICE-CHANCELLOR**

The Council of the University of York is seeking a Vice-Chancellor to take office in September 1978. The successful candidate will be responsible for the overall management of the University, including the coordination of academic, administrative and financial activities. The salary will be in the range of £12,000 to £15,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, University of York, Heslington, York YO1 5DD, by 15 December 1977.

## COLLEGE ADMINISTRATOR

required early 1978, for independent secondary school, College of Education, University of York. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the College, including the supervision of staff and the coordination of administrative and financial activities. The salary will be in the range of £12,000 to £15,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, College of Education, University of York, Heslington, York YO1 5DD, by 15 December 1977.

## ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY COUNCILS

**Appointment of ASSISTANT SECRETARY**

**SALARY £8,700 TO £10,300 P.A.**

(inclusive of London Weighting and Supplements)

Applications are invited for the post which carries Assistant Secretary Status. The post is available from 1 April 1978 and is held in the Association of County Councils, London. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Association, including the supervision of staff and the coordination of administrative and financial activities. The salary will be in the range of £8,700 to £10,300 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, Association of County Councils, London W2 1PG, by 15 December 1977.

## UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS IN NEW NIGERIAN UNIVERSITIES

The Inter-University Council intends to extend its regular appointments for posts in the new and developing universities in Nigeria. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the university, including the supervision of staff and the coordination of administrative and financial activities. The salary will be in the range of £12,000 to £15,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, Inter-University Council, London W2 1PG, by 15 December 1977.

## UNIVERSITY OF CAPE COAST, GHANA

**DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS**

Applications are invited from suitable qualified persons for the following posts in the Department of Classics:

**Professor/Associate Professor**

**Lecturers/Assistant Lecturers**

Applicants must have a good Honours degree in Classics with special interest in either Ancient History or Literature, and must in addition have a higher degree or some University teaching and research experience.

**ASSISTANT LECTURERS**

Applicants must have a good Honours degree in Classics with special interest in either Ancient History or Literature, and must in addition have a higher degree or some University teaching and research experience.

**SALARY:**

PROFESSOR — C12,384.00 per annum.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR — C11,526.00 per annum.

LECTURER — C6,420.00 + 240 = C9,780.00 per annum.

ASSISTANT LECTURER — C5,500.00 + 240 = C5,740.00 per annum.

Other benefits include furnished accommodation at subsidised rates, free leave, free medical facilities and children's allowances.

At current rates of exchange: £2.10 = £1 Sterling.

Further particulars and application forms are obtainable from the Senior Assistant Registrar, Universities of Ghana Office, 15 Gordon Square, London WC1H 9AG. Enquiries should be sent to the Registrar, Universities of Ghana Office, 15 Gordon Square, London WC1H 9AG, by 15 December 1977.

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## LAMSAC

**LOCAL AUTHORITIES MANAGEMENT SERVICES AND COMPUTER COMMITTEE**

(Incorporating the Joint Advisory Committee on Local Authority Purchasing)

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (PURCHASING)**

It has been decided by the four Associations who represent Local Authorities in Great Britain that there is a need to strengthen the work undertaken by the Joint Advisory Committee on Local Authority Purchasing. The Committee is therefore being integrated with LAMSAC, and an Assistant Director (Purchasing) being appointed. This officer will be responsible for carrying out the executive work of a new Sub-Committee and Panel, the aims of which will be to promote and facilitate more effective purchasing within local government. Applicants must possess personal qualities of organisation, innovation, skill in negotiation and the ability to communicate at committee and technical levels. There is a need for an understanding of local government structure and organisation and of the views on purchasing held by the various Departments and Departments. The applicant should be able to write reports of an extremely high standard. A professional qualification and/or practical experience in purchasing could be an advantage but neither is considered essential.

The salary is £26,615.127 plus a London Allowance of £435 and the conditions of service are those applicable to local government, including the superannuation scheme. Annual leave 23 days increased by three days after ten years service. Period of notice 3 months. If you consider you can meet the challenging requirements please write for further details and an application form to: S. R. Barnes, Director, LAMSAC, 3, Buckingham Gate, London, SW1E 6JH or telephone, 01-826 2333. Closing date for applications, 19th December 1977.

## ST. JOHNS BEAUMONT, OLD WINDSOR, BERKS.

The Governors of Stonyhurst College invite applications for

**JOINT HEADSHIP**

at their South of England Preparatory School. This appointment is part of the plans for the future of their Preparatory Schools.

The appointment will be from September, 1978. St. John's is an I.A.P.S. School for Catholic boys with 110 boys. Applicants must be practising Roman Catholics. They should write to the Clerk of the Governors, Stonyhurst College, Nr. Blackburn, Lancs. BB6 9PZ, by 22nd December, 1977, enclosing a Curriculum Vitae and the names of three referees.

## UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**ANTHROPOLOGY**

Applications are invited for the post of

**LECTURER IN SOCIO-LINGUISTICS**

In the Department of Anthropology. This will be a full-time position. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, including the supervision of staff and the coordination of administrative and financial activities. The salary will be in the range of £12,000 to £15,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, University of Western Australia, Perth, by 15 December 1977.

## UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM

**DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY**

**S.R.C. POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP**

is available from 1st April 1978. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the research project, including the supervision of staff and the coordination of administrative and financial activities. The salary will be in the range of £12,000 to £15,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, University of Durham, Durham, by 15 December 1977.

## UNIVERSITY OF CHICHESTER

**RYLANDS CHAIR OF BIBLICAL CRITICISM AND EXEGESIS**

Applications are invited for the post which carries Rylands Chair Status. The post is available from 1 April 1978 and is held in the University of Chichester, Chichester. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the chair, including the supervision of staff and the coordination of administrative and financial activities. The salary will be in the range of £12,000 to £15,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, University of Chichester, Chichester, by 15 December 1977.

## UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

**LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS**

**THE MORRIS GINSBERG FELLOWSHIP IN SOCIOLOGY**

The London School of Economics is offering a Morris Ginsberg Fellowship in Sociology. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the fellowship, including the supervision of staff and the coordination of administrative and financial activities. The salary will be in the range of £12,000 to £15,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, London School of Economics, London, by 15 December 1977.

## UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG

**SENIOR LECTURESHIP IN COMMUNITY MEDICINE**

Applications are invited for the post which carries Senior Lecturer Status. The post is available from 1 April 1978 and is held in the University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the lectureship, including the supervision of staff and the coordination of administrative and financial activities. The salary will be in the range of £12,000 to £15,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, by 15 December 1977.

## UNIVERSITY OF BATH

**LECTURER**

in the School of Education, with responsibility for the teaching of the subject of Education. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the lectureship, including the supervision of staff and the coordination of administrative and financial activities. The salary will be in the range of £12,000 to £15,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, University of Bath, Bath, by 15 December 1977.

## UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

**CHAIR IN ANATOMY**

Applications are invited for the post which carries Chair Status. The post is available from 1 April 1978 and is held in the University of Bristol, Bristol. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the chair, including the supervision of staff and the coordination of administrative and financial activities. The salary will be in the range of £12,000 to £15,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, University of Bristol, Bristol, by 15 December 1977.

## UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

**THE CHAIR IN PAEDIATRICS**

Applications are invited for the post which carries Chair Status. The post is available from 1 April 1978 and is held in the University of Auckland, Auckland. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the chair, including the supervision of staff and the coordination of administrative and financial activities. The salary will be in the range of £12,000 to £15,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Secretary, University of Auckland, Auckland, by 15 December 1977.

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## FOCUS ON

## The Eastern Province

Oil wealth... gas  
gathering... Dammam  
port... Jubail complex

Power house for  
new industry

by David Shirreff

Al-Khobar, in Saudi Arabia's Eastern Province, is the most expensive place in the world in which to live, according to a recent survey by Management Information Consulting Associates. It is twice as expensive as London for a married couple with one child to live in, excluding rent and school fees. But a newcomer expecting a standard of living twice as high as in London would be disappointed. Life is spartan, at least in outward appearance. Any luxuries such as drink, films, sports and other entertainments are kept firmly within the home or company compound.

The inhabitant of Eastern Province is made constantly aware how extreme the elements can be. Humidity, rainstorms, hot winds, and burning heat are followed by gusty and cold winter days on the Gulf coast.

But in this province of Saudi Arabia, where most of the exciting industrial development is concentrated, living conditions take second place to the challenge and rewards of work.

The Eastern Province may be culturally the least well endowed of the three Saudi

regions, but there are signs that this may be gradually changing. Dammam is a functional town, but outside it at Al-Khobar one of the finest buildings in Saudi Arabia was completed in 1972, the University of Petroleum and Minerals.

It rides on a high escarpment some miles from the sea and combines Islamic elements with functional modernity, spacious buildings flanked by tall arched cloisters, and dominated by a central minaret-like clock and water tower.

Unfortunately, there are too few comparable buildings springing up in the rush to develop the economic potential of the region.

In many ways the Eastern Province simply means Aramco, the Arabian American Oil Company, which has shaped the course of life there since 1933. Its demands have furnished a road network, the ports of Ras Tanura and Dammam, a self-contained city at Al-Khobar and a satellite city at Dhahran.

The future shape of the province, however, is being determined by the second five-year development plan which was launched in 1975. The plan stipulates that the Eastern Province will be the

powerhouse of Saudi Arabia's new industry, based on the use of natural gas, which at the moment is simply being flared off or injected into oilfields to maintain pressure.

Aramco has been put in charge of developing these gas resources and with building a pipeline to pump the gas to Jubail farther north up the Gulf coast and across the peninsula to Yenbo on the Red Sea. Jubail and Yenbo are the two industrial centres planned to diversify the Saudi economy.

Another Aramco project is an electricity network to

cover the entire Eastern Province. Aramco is carefully changing itself from a foreign company with four American partners into a state-owned company with foreign elements. That change is being helped by Aramco's broader involvement in the development of the province.

There are other companies and establishments shaping the region's future; the Royal Commission for Yenbo and Jubail is based in Al-Khobar, sharing a building with the Bechtel Corporation of the United States which is helping it to

plan the development of Jubail.

Fluor Corporation of the United States has been contracted by Aramco to design the gas-collection project. The handing out of subsidiary contracts is now gathering momentum, and each one requires the import and housing of a self-contained foreign labour force, complete with equipment, entertainment, and food and health facilities.

On either side of the road out of Dammam the construction camps are spreading like miniature nations in the wilderness—Turks here,

Koreans there, Indians, British, Dutch, all with their characteristic comforts to make the place seem more like home.

Such development continues north up the coast, and the latest project is the building of an entire military city at Hafar al-Batin near the Kuwait border. The United States Army Corps of Engineers, which is developing most of the military services in Saudi Arabia, recently contracted an American consortium to build the \$1,000m King Khalid Military City from scratch to house 70,000 people by 1985.

To build it a new port was needed at the nearest

The Safami pipeworks near Dhahran represents an example of an industry serving the oilfields.

point on the Gulf coast. The four-bay port at Ras al-Mishab was completed in July and will use its entire capacity to supply building materials for the city.

The biggest activity is concentrated around Jubail, where three big ports are being built in the middle of nowhere. Koreans, Dutch, Greeks, and British are working round the clock to provide this inlet for material, so that the next phase can start: the building of petrochemical plants,

... agriculture... the  
search for new minerals  
... urban explosion

power and desalination works, a steel mill and related industries.

There are delays in launching these projects. The big gas-collecting scheme has been delayed at least four years, but a visitor to Jubail will see that things are being done, and it is only a matter of time, not money or determination, before Jubail becomes the industrial node it is meant to be.

Jubail was once a small fishing village with a Turkish customs house and a cluster of houses. Other coastal spots like Qatif, Dammam and Ras Tanura have gone through the same process of rapid development, where before there was just a little fishing and small trade with India and other Gulf ports. Inland, life is less changed, except where the oilfields have been developed.

A hundred miles inland is Hofuf, the biggest oasis in Saudi Arabia. It covers 50,000 acres and contains 160,000 people. There are 18,000 miles of irrigation and drainable canals within it.

Before the water system was set up there was actually too much water in Hofuf and the swamps were a breeding ground for malaria mosquitoes and sumps of increasingly briny mud. Although the semi-desert of Eastern Province is poor in minerals there is the occasional gypsum mine.

At Haradh, farther west and on the edge of the desert there is, or was, an experimental sheep-rearing station. The purpose of the project was to develop the local breed of sheep, the nejd, by feeding it high protein alfalfa grown on the farm. But it appears that the

scheme, and plans to train the local Beduin in sheep technology, have been brought to an end. A laconic advertisement in a local English-language paper recently advertised the sale of Haradh's 20,000 nejd sheep.

South of Haradh lies the Empty Quarter, or Rub al-Khali, one of the most forbidding deserts in the world. Workers at the Haradh farm are careful not to stray too far from the low-slung buildings, because once you have lost sight of those, they say, your sense of direction can go completely wild and you will never find them again.

The Rub al-Khali is the home of the hardest Beduin, the al-Murrah tribe. There have been ways across that desert for centuries, but it was only in 1930 that the first white man, Bertram Thomas, travelled across it by camel. He was followed by H. St. John Philby and Wilfred Thesiger. Even now it has seldom been crossed by foreigners, and visitors are discouraged from venturing into it, even with four-wheel drive vehicles.

But Aramco has a programme of exploration there, with test wells in the remotest places. Apart from oil, it is not yet clear whether the Rub al-Khali has much mineral wealth to offer.

Geomarine of the United States has been surveying there for two years and at the beginning of this year two other companies, Petty Ray and the Arab Company of Geophysics, were hired to do seismic studies.

The author is on the staff of the Middle East Economic Digest.

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## FOCUS ON

OIL WEALTH



## New finds exceed rate of consumption

by Roger Vielvoye

Every year since the Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco) began producing oil from under the deserts of the Eastern Province, the exploration teams have managed to find new reserves that have exceeded the amount of oil pumped out by their colleagues in the production departments.

As output soared over the past few years to reach peaks of 10 million to 11 million barrels a day earlier in the year, exploration work has increased. Aramco estimates that there are 110,200 million barrels of oil, sufficient to keep production running at the present rate of 3,000 million barrels a year for another 36 years.

Proved reserves are those the company is certain can be commercially exploited but the probable reserves—the amount that the company expects could exist but has not yet fully confirmed—stand at 177,500 million barrels, sufficient for 60 years production.

But there are often rumours that actual reserves are well in excess of these official figures. Only further drilling will be able to determine the exact extent of the reserves, particularly those that may lie under the more inaccessible areas of the sands of the Empty Quarter.

Aramco's exploration teams had a remarkable record during 1976. Drilling discovered three new oil fields, two onshore and one offshore. The Suban field is just south of the Trans-Arabian Pipeline—300km from the coast. The Shahrar field lies close to the coast, again on the route of the pipelines linking the Manifa and Safaniya fields.

The offshore field, named Hasbah, lies about 25 miles south-east of the Marjan and Zuluf marine production complexes. In addition, Aramco staff have been evaluating a potential offshore discovery named Qubub.

At Wabhan, a few kilometres east of the Jubail field, a discovery made in 1975 was proved as a commercial field. Drilling on the Jubail field confirmed that an accumulation at the northern end was in fact a separate field now named Habari. This field also straddles the route of the Trans-Arabian Pipeline.

### Seven seismic crews at work on land

Geophysical exploration activity has also continued at a high level. Seven seismic crews have been at work on land while offshore a detailed seismic survey has begun in deep water to supplement the work already done in the shallower seas.

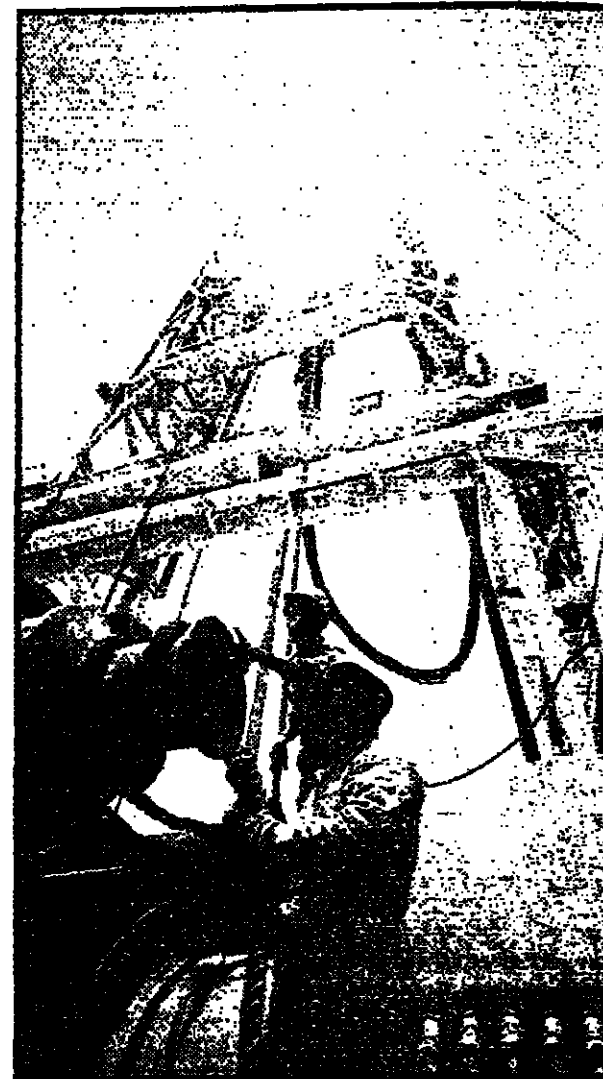
Reserves can also be expanded by installing additional equipment to ensure that less oil is left in the field. One of the ways of doing this is to inject water into the reservoir. On the massive Ghawar reservoir, Aramco has constructed such a project for the South Othmaniyah and Hawiyah sections of the field to maintain the underground pressure that is so important in keeping a high flow of oil.

The system raises high-salinity aquifer water to the surface by gas lift and then reinjects it into the reservoir. This has involved the construction of six gas compressor stations, 38 gas lift stations, 42 water injection stations and connecting pipelines.

A scheme has also started to inject seawater into the Ghawar field. A seawater intake and treatment plant is under construction at Qurayyah which by mid-1978 should be supplying 4,200,000 barrels a day of treated seawater to the field. This is pumped through 60 miles of 60in and 56in pipelines into the existing water distribution and injection network. The entire system will be computer controlled and its separate components will be linked by microwave communications.

With Saudi production capability close on 12 million barrels a day, and plans being prepared to extend the facilities to 16 million barrels a day, it is important that there is sufficient capacity for exporting the oil.

The pipeline across the Arabian peninsula to Yanbu will provide some flexibility as might a projected line through Oman and South Yemen to the Indian Ocean. Meanwhile the terminal at Jubail has been expanded by two more single-buoy loading moorings and a third crude loading system. Jubail



Aramco workers sink another well. Left: Ras Tannurah, the country's main oil refinery and port.

can now load three million barrels of oil a day and could handle tankers of up to 700,000 tons if they were built at some time in the future.

It is not just the oil facilities that are expanding quickly in the Eastern Province. Aramco is supervising a massive gas-gathering system and an electrification project while the Jubail industrial complex is scheduled to have a new refinery, petrochemical works and a steel plant, all of which require large amounts of imported plant and equipment.

For its own projects Aramco imported more than a million tons of cargo last year, most of it by sea. To relieve pressure on existing port facilities, Aramco expanded the west pier at Ras Tannurah, its main oil exporting terminal. Two large ports were constructed at Jubail and Qurayyah and acquired the use of terminals in the United States and marshalling yards exclusively for goods being shipped into Saudi Arabia for use by Aramco.

First signs of progress in the campaign to improve the public services are beginning to emerge. Aramco has completed a 200MW power station at Berri and has started work on an 800MW station at Ghazlan, five miles west of the Jubail terminal. Work is also under way on the first part of the 1,350 miles, 230,000-volt transmission line which will become the backbone of the Eastern Province power distribution.

All this work has been undertaken under the supervision of Aramco which has also continued to design and construct urgently required electrification projects requested by the Government for various municipal areas in the Eastern Province.

In addition construction has proceeded on important power generation and transmission facilities which will also become part of the Saudi Consolidated Electric Company (SCECO) for which Aramco is the designated manager and operator.

The gas-gathering line, one of the biggest civil engineering jobs ever attempted, is also placing a considerable strain on the resources of the province. Special camps have been built for the thousands of foreign workers needed to complete the scheme.

Once the gas-gathering line is in operation, there will no longer be any need to flare off much of the gas produced in association with oil. Instead this valuable source of energy will provide the feedstocks for industry, power generations, gas exports. A pipeline to Yanbu will also move some of the gas to the industrial complex on the Red Sea coast.

The main thrust of industrial development in the Eastern Province will be centred on Jubail. A million tons a year steel plant will be built close to a refinery and petrochemical plant in which Shell will have a 50 per cent stake and will act as operator. Exxon, one of the Aramco partners, will also be involved in petrochemicals.

A number of sites have been set aside for manufacturing industry and the site at Dammam is being expanded rapidly as more and more foreign companies are setting up in partnership with Saudi interests to take advantage of the industrial boom in the province.

The pace at which this development continues will be settled by political decisions taken in Riyadh. At the root of the question is how large an expansion of oil production facilities should the Saudi Arabian permit. There is an influential lobby in favour of allowing production to rise to a minimum average of 11 million to 12 million barrels a day to ease the energy supply problems of the industrialized nations in the early 1980s.

Rising production during this period would almost certainly coincide with a period of rapidly rising oil prices that could again bring to Saudi Arabia the problems of investing their surplus oil revenues.

But the problems posed by the industrialization of the Eastern Province, its attendant strain on resources, large imports of manpower and capital goods plus the runaway inflation this has brought are very much in the minds of other Saudis when the question of a ceiling for oil production is discussed.

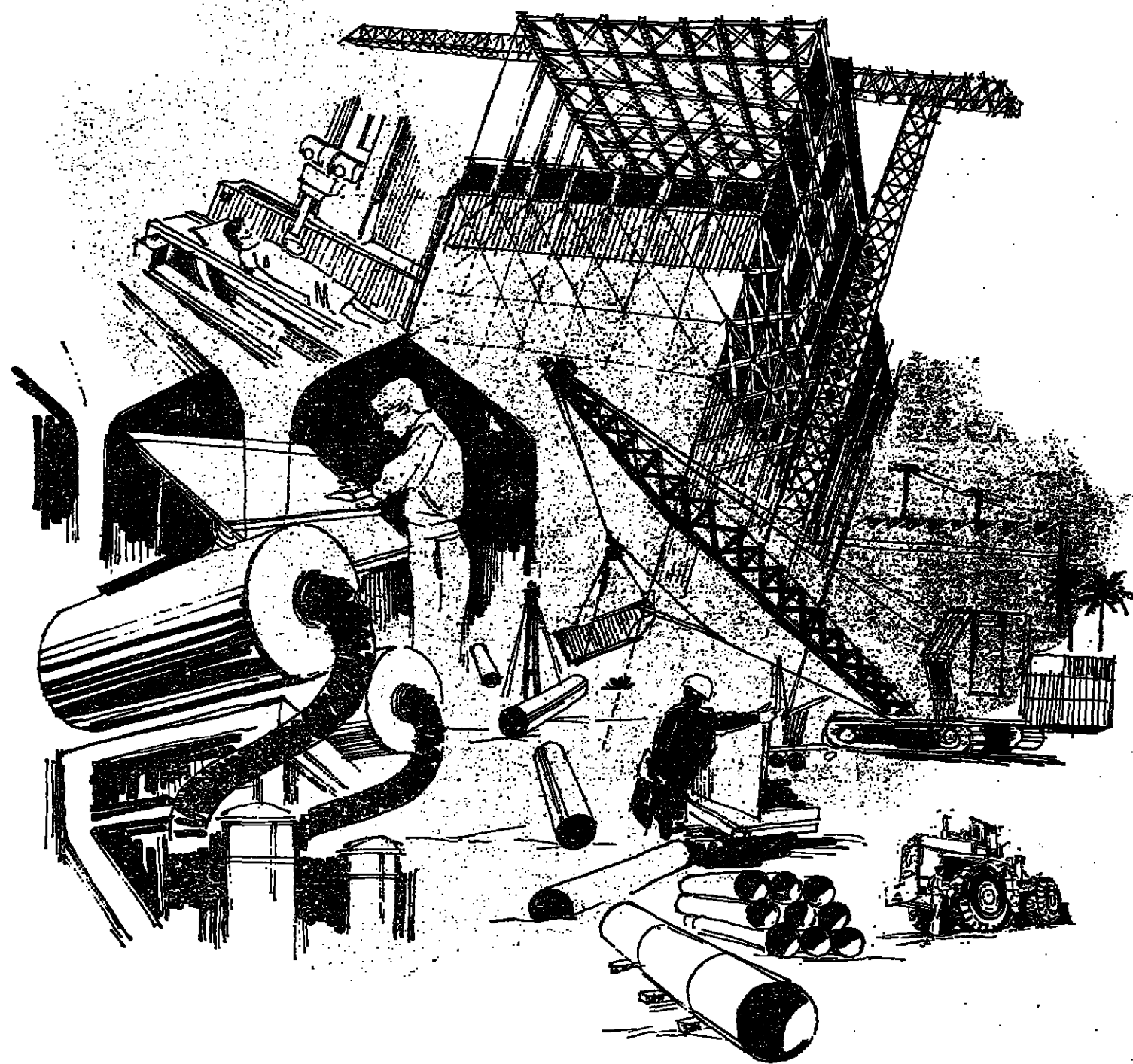
Output is now limited to 8,500,000 barrels a day while technical tests are carried out on the oil reservoirs. Holding production well below the 10 million barrels a day that was achieved earlier in the year has been no embarrassment during a world wide glut of crude oil.

There are voices that say even this level is too high and provides the Saudis with more revenue than they can use. It seems likely that a compromise can be reached although whether oil revenues will still be channelled into large industrialization projects is open to debate.

The author is Energy Correspondent, The Times.



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# FOCUS ON

## JUBAIL COMPLEX AND GAS GATHERING

### Fishing port becomes industrial centre

by Geoffrey Weston

Under the second development plan, Saudi Arabia has committed itself to a policy of industrialization. To broaden the nation's economic base, the five-year plan of Saudi oil is expected to generate electricity for the whole of New York.

Conscious of this enormous waste, planners have set out to use future supplies of natural gas and maximize the benefits of crude oil. The presence of the oil fields in the Eastern Province, the need for deep-water facilities to export new products, and the large undeveloped hinterland, narrowed the choice of a site down to the little town of Jubail, a fishing port of 2,000 inhabitants on the coast north of Dammam.

Jubail is to be the country's biggest industrial complex and the rate of progress since it was conceived early in 1974 has been extraordinary.

Construction began in the summer of 1975 and since early last year the Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu, has coordinated progress. Yanbu, a small port on the Red Sea north of Jiddah, is to be the base for a secondary industrial development based on oil and natural gas piped direct from Jubail.

In an interview with *The Times*, Dr Faruk Aldar, the American-educated secretary-general of the royal commission, outlined the design of a twenty-first century city of 175,000 people spread over a desert site, 20km by 30 km, with every comfort and technological aid can supply. To the north will be the residential areas and to the south the industrial area. Such dreams depend, however, on attracting large numbers of Beduin from a wide area.

Crucial to the plan are an industrial port servicing the industrial complex, and further south, a commercial port handling other cargo and planned to relieve the pressure on Dammam. There will also be a rail link to the Dammam-Riyadh line, an

airstrip and a massive infrastructure of roads and other services.

Even by Middle East standards the scale of the operation is enormous, with up to 40,000 people engaged on construction, and the industrial complex alone is expected to take 11 to 15 years to build. The American Bechtel Company is the principal engineering consultant but management, technical and many other interests are involved, including Aramco, Petromin and the Ports Authority.

As well as the primary industries based on hydrocarbon resources and others which are energy-intensive, two export refineries, a lubricating oil refinery, four petrochemical plants, an aluminium smelter and a steel mill are planned so far. Support industries will manufacture steel, aluminium, plastic and chemical products.

The industrial harbour is planned to receive imports of bulk cargo, such as iron ore concentrates, limestone, aluminium and salt and to export refinery products, such as liquid and solid petrochemicals, iron and steel, aluminium and sulphur. Four berths will be

alongside the open sea-tanker terminal connected to a causeway 9.5 km long. The causeway will be 300 metres wide to accommodate a road, railway, a pipe track and possibly a conduit to transmit seawater for industrial cooling.

Six shallow water berths, with a total length of 550 metres, intended mainly for salt barges and small craft, and nine deep water berths, 2,350 metres long, comprise the other main facilities. The dredging and reclamation is being carried out by Jubail Harbour Consortium, a joint venture between Stevin Dredging, Bos Kalis, van Hattum and Zaanen Versteep at a cost of £183m.

The South Korean firm Hyundai Construction Company, which has won the £540m contract to build the industrial port, has aroused considerable comment on account of its low pricing and the comprehensive scale of its operations. It ran into difficulties over an industrial dispute among its South Korean workers, who are paid lower wages than those of other nationalities in the area. Such occurrences are unknown in Saudi Arabia's strictly disciplined

society, but the disruption was smoothed over and work has continued.

The most advanced work has been done on the commercial port, which is due for completion in 1979. Fourteen deep-water berths, of which two are complete, with a total length of 3,300 metres, are planned, together with two container berths and a short stretch of quay for shallow craft. These are protected by breakwaters, the southern one 21km long and the eastern one 4km long.

Extensive dredging and reclamation is being carried out by Royal Adriaan Volker Dredging Company of Rotterdam. The reclaimed material being used to reclaim the port administration buildings and maintenance facilities. This contract is worth £156m.

The first phase of construction was completed this year at a cost of £56m by Archirodon of Athens. The remaining construction is a joint venture worth £500m, shared between Adriaan Volker and Consolidated Contractors Company. The consulting engineers for both ports are Sir William Halcrow and Partners.

### Recovery schemes defeating energy scandal

by Roger Vielvoye

The world's first \$1,000m recovery and treatment programme that will turn 1,000 million cu ft a day of unused gas, produced in association with oil, into marketable products has now begun to operate in Saudi Arabia.

Although the builders, Fluor Corporation, say it is the biggest scheme of its type in the world, it will be dwarfed by the follow-up gas gathering project now being undertaken on behalf of the Government by the Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco).

The vast quantities of gas produced in association with oil that have been burnt off daily in Saudi Arabia have for years been one of the great scandals of the energy industry. Oil companies claimed that the gas had to be flared because there was no economic way of channeling it into local industries or exporting the fuel to the gas-hungry industrialized countries.

But the increase in oil prices after the 1973-74 supply crisis, which accelerated the rate of industrial development in Saudi Arabia, has provided a market for the gas. New industries, petrochemical plants and power stations need the gas as a fuel and the Government is now rich enough to

finance the massive scheme needed to gather, treat and distribute the gas.

During 1976 between 4,400 million and 4,500 million cu ft a day of gas was produced in association with the oil, and less than one quarter was used productively. The completion of the Fluor scheme has increased this figure but the amount that is being wasted is almost the equivalent of two thirds of Britain's daily gas consumption.

Saudi Arabia estimates its gas reserves at 86,000,000 million cu ft, most of which is in association with oil. Only two non-associate gas fields have been properly appraised. The largest, the Kidan field, is in the remote Empty Quarter but a much smaller field lies under the city of Dhahran and provides a domestic source of power. Gas exploration is continuing, but with such large amounts of associated gas still going to waste there is not much incentive to develop other deposits.

The Government has commissioned Aramco to supervise and let the contracts for the gas gathering scheme, which is expected to be handling 5,000 million cu ft of gas a day when it is complete in the 1980s. So far it has proved impossible to cost the scheme, since the size of the work has changed so often since the idea was conceived in 1975.

At that time it was thought that the project

would cost a total of \$5,000m and would use the associated gas from overall oil production of about 12 million barrels a day. But last year the whole project was given a thorough reappraisal as it was felt that oil production in the early 1980s might be running at an average of only 10 million barrels a day.

Another factor was the rapidly escalating cost that was making even the rich Saudis flinch. According to some sources the costs were almost double the original estimate at \$10,000m—more even than the \$7,000m trans-Alaska pipeline, which is so far the world's most expensive construction project.

An analysis of world markets for the gas that is surplus to local requirements also provided some sobering figures for the planners. Saudi Arabia is not alone in devising schemes to prevent the wasteful burning of associated gas and there were considerable doubts whether the world market for natural gas liquids could absorb large new tranches of capacity. The Saudi scheme, as it stood, could have ruined the market and depressed prices. As a result all the Middle Eastern countries would have been running their gas gathering operations at a loss.

The government answer to these problems has been to allow the project to slip behind its original schedule.

Two of the key elements in the scheme, the processing units at Sheddum and Jurayyah, had been scheduled for completion in 1979 but will now not be ready until 1981. The rest of the facilities will be staggered into the mid-1980s.

By taking the pressure off the construction companies—Fluor, Ralph M. Parsons, Bechtel and Hudson-McDermott—the scheme will be able to proceed on a more methodical schedule that will reduce the need for the vast importation of labour that has caused huge logistical problems.

In addition, the decision to base the scheme on an average oil production of 10 million barrels a day will reduce the amount of natural gas liquids available daily from 600,000 barrels to 400,000 barrels and the daily production of ethane from 400,000 barrels to 200,000 barrels. Cost savings will be achieved from the lower ethane production. The change in the broad objectives of the scheme means that there will be no more installations at Abqaiq and that the processing centre at Khawis will be abandoned.

Enormous problems have arisen in Abqaiq, Ras Tanura and Berri and a small compression plant on the island of Abu Ali. The Abqaiq and Berri plants pipe their production to the Ras Tanura refinery where it is fractionated, treated, refrigerated, stored and shipped.

employees on the various development projects. Aramco has built and is operating nine camps housing more than 10,000 workers and 600 dependants. One of the camps is a floating one, built on two barges moored at Qurayyah. The camps will eventually house about 33,000 contractor employees, and will also provide 425,000 sq ft of office space.

The system that has just been completed by Fluor is providing natural gas liquids for export and sweetened residue gas for use at the Jubail industrial complex. Aramco will also use a portion of this sweet gas as a fuel at other industrial facilities in the province. There is a total of 380 million cu ft a day of sweet gas for fuel purposes.

Other facilities provide 210,000 barrels a day of natural gas liquids, guaranteeing that Saudi Arabia will remain the world's largest exporter of butane, propane and naphtha. The Fluor system takes gas associated with oil from wells in the Ghawar, Abqaiq, Ain Dair and Qufi oilfields. It is collected and processed at centres in Abqaiq, Ras Tanura and Berri and a small compression plant on the island of Abu Ali. The Abqaiq and Berri plants pipe their production to the Ras Tanura refinery where it is fractionated, treated, refrigerated, stored and shipped.

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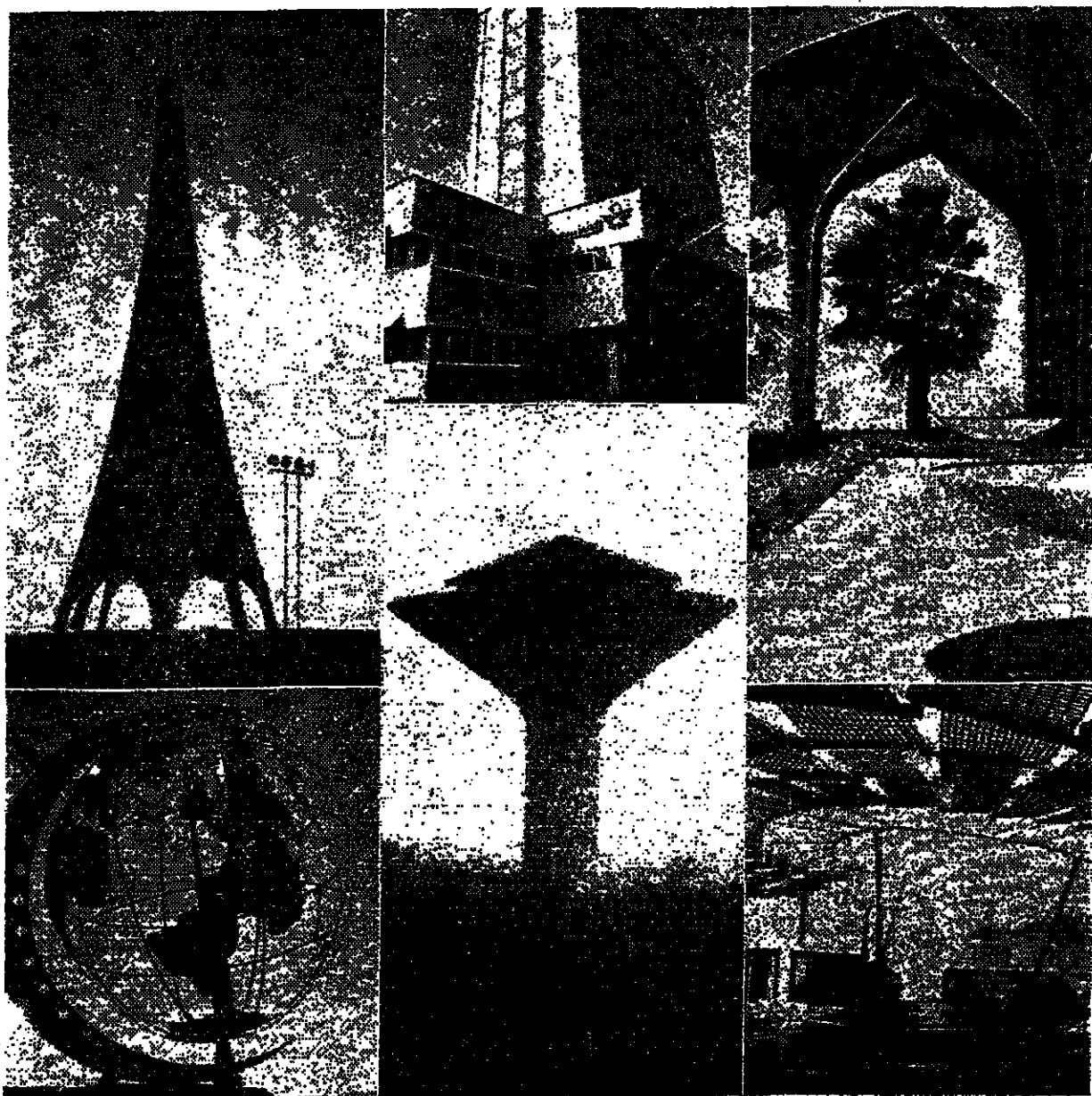
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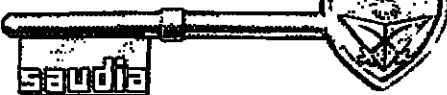
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## FOCUS ON

THE URBAN EXPLOSION AND PROSPECTS FOR LONG-DISTANCE PIPELINES

Exploration camp  
presages  
social transformation

by H. Bowen-Jones

Forty years ago one oil exploration camp with its 50 or so inhabitants in the sand and rock wastes which make up the low hills around Jabal Dhahran was a strange intrusion in a vast region in which oasis agriculture and nomadic pastoralism were dominant and in which towns were few and small. Hofuf, it is true, had some 50,000 people, but it was still essentially the same classic settlement centre which it had been for centuries, important as the place from which the great est oasis in Saudi Arabia solely in terms of oil, the

could be controlled, worked region has developed dynamic and complex characteristics which are essentially town-centred. At first it was simply oil production and crude oil export which dominated. At the first camp site, once oil was struck, a company town grew around the Arabian American Oil Co (Aramco) headquarters, a town like many others in the world created to supply the facilities necessary to maintain a community of expatriate oil company employees in an alien and undeveloped environment. Even before 1940 an electricity generating plant, commissary, clinic and other services supplied the nucleus of a transplanted town designed by Americans.

primarily for Americans. In 1953 Aramco moved its headquarters from New York to Dhahran as the operational centre for what already promised to be one of the world's greatest oil regions. All the urban services one associates with western cities were created out of the desert in what has remained a company town increasingly dedicated to the administration and technological servicing of an oil province which extends from the newest oilfields in the Rub al-Khali to the Mediterranean.

Dhahran has a cantonment heart, an international airport (and associated hotel) which has grown from the old Aramco airfield, and a University of Petroleum and Minerals, but its non-oil industry and commerce have remained small and limited. In the same specialised manner, the export terminal and refinery town of Ras Tanura (with its dormitory suburb at Al-Rihama) and Abqaiq to the south, the main oil production control centre.

It is elsewhere that the greatest urban changes of scale and of type occurred. Most extreme have been those at Dammam and Al-Khobar. By 1950 it was clear that a general purpose and oilfield supply port had to be created and Dammam was selected for port development and as the Gulf terminus of Saudi Arabia's only railway—then to Riyadh.

By the same year the demand for residential accommodation for Aramco employees had soared, particularly for Saudi Arabian nationals. The ancillary support activities demanded and created by the oil industry were beginning to attract significant numbers of Saudi Arabian and other Arab immigrant workers.

In collaboration with the Government, Aramco engineers set about planning the communities of Dammam and Al-Khobar, incorporating a policy of encouraging and assisting Arab employees to build or purchase permanent homes rather than allowing socially unbalanced drift to the oilfields. Grid pattern layouts, assuming from the start a motorized society and capable of almost infinite expansion, engulfed the tiny traditional nuclei.

In 1953 Dammam became the provincial capital and took over from the traditional oasis centre of Hofuf not only the governmental functions of Dammam but also the economic leadership. From its 1,300 inhabitants in 1953 Dammam has increased its population to about 80,000—and a population that is totally devoted to commerce, industry and urban activities.

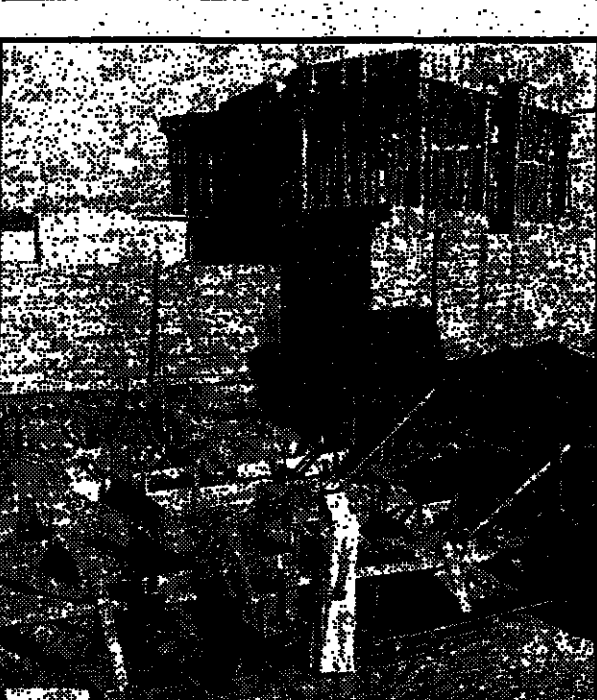
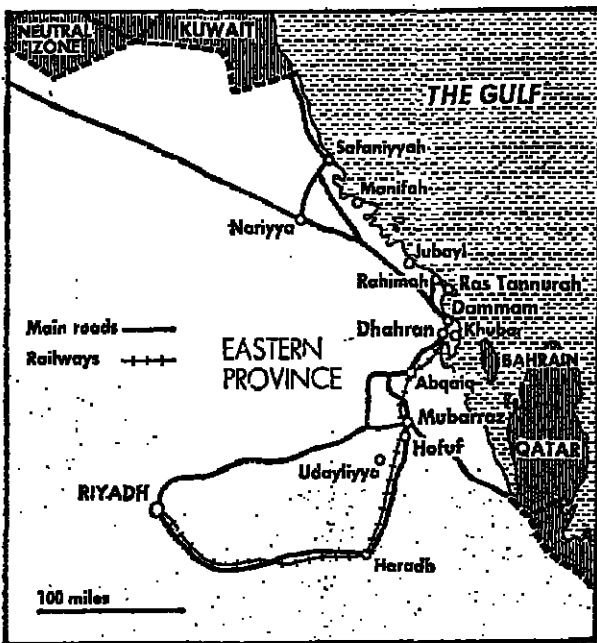
It rivals Jeddah for seaborne trade, handling about 20,000 tons of discharged cargo a day; 3,500 tons are committed to further port expansion. That in itself is a most powerful industrial location and expansion forces in that imported raw and semi-processed materials, capital goods, fuel and labour are crucial to the province's development and almost all flow in through Dammam.

Port and rail activities, manufacturing and services in Dammam's industrial estate as well as in the host of city centre workshops and peripheral factories in which clothing, textiles and food industries predominate—and administrative pre-eminence have made Dammam the natural location for the Eastern Province branches of businesses based in Riyadh and Jeddah.

The city centre concentration of activity in the King Street and Fahd Street area is in the classical central business district style, but in a totally Arab and Islamic society. Al-Khobar, with a little more than half the population of Dammam, has had a similar expansive history but has developed some special characteristics. For a short while during the 1940s it succeeded Jeddah as the oilfield port, but since 1950 has been completely overshadowed as a port by Dammam.

During the 1950s, however, it developed slightly ahead of Dammam as a residential and retail centre for oil company employees and has retained a lead in high quality retailing. It serves a proportionately larger western expatriate resident population. Wholesale trade and manufacturing industry are less well developed but banking and financial activities are exceptionally large. Its several grid planned quarters are also fairly distinct.

Dhahran, Dammam and Al-Khobar must be regarded as a single urban and industrial complex, with social and economic services for a population of some 150,000 in an area about 15km from north to south and 8km east



A Saudi inspects the progress of his house at Al-Khobar, being built with an interest-free government mortgage.

to west. Within that area almost all land is devoted to oil. In the next 20 years, it is planned to grow as both an industrial and an urban centre. But questions about where its population will come from, how far and in what ways its port will compete with or complement Dammam, and how and in what ways private commerce and industry will respond to and then accelerate its growth, cannot be fully answered yet.

The author is professor of geography and director, Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, Durham University.

Security lies  
behind  
expensive plans

by Roger Vielvoye

At a time when there is a massive world glut of crude oil and a similar surplus of tankers, with millions of tons of vessels laid up, Saudi Arabia is embarking on a state of pipeline building.

Undertaken by the closure of the Trans-Arabia Pipeline (Tapline), the Saudi Arabian Government has placed a \$1,500m contract to build a 1,287km long pipeline from the oilfields of the Eastern Province to the new industrial centre of Yanbu on the Red Sea coast.

Two other new pipelines are being considered. The largest is an ambitious project to link the Eastern Province oilfields with the Indian Ocean with a line across the Empty Quarter desert and through the Democratic Republic of South Yemen.

There is also a shorter line under consideration that would pipe oil from the newly discovered Shaybah fields close to the border with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) again to the Indian Ocean, this time through Oman.

Saudi Arabia is not alone in increasing its interests in pipelines at a time when the economic reasons for doing so are difficult to establish. Iraq has recently opened a 965km pipeline from its oilfields to the Turkish port of Iskenderun, and Egypt has opened the Suez pipeline from the Gulf of Suez to the Mediterranean.

The key to this rash of pipeline building lies in the need to ensure the security of the oil routes. Saudi Arabia and Iraq have both pipelines that run through one or more countries that are continually increasing their transit charges and, in the view of the pipeline owners, failing to use part of the large fees to provide effective security.

Saudi Arabia is well aware that all its tanker terminals that could handle the 11 million to 12 million barrels a day maximum output are situated in the Gulf close to the large producing fields in the Eastern Province.

To reach the terminals tankers must pass through the narrow Strait of Hormuz between Iran and Oman. In

a notoriously unstable area this life-line could easily become blocked preventing a large proportion of the world's exports from leaving the terminals.

Tanker terminals in the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean would provide not only new outlets in case of war in the Gulf, but also give some alternative means of exporting oil during periods of prolonged bad weather that curtail or completely shut down tanker loading operations. Long spells of bad weather are not unusual, as buyers of Saudi Arabian oil found to their cost earlier in the year. Storms prevented them from getting large quantities of cheap oil from the Gulf to Europe, Japan and North America during the two-tier oil pricing dispute.

The bitter experience of operating the Tapline through Jordan, Syria and Lebanon, makes pipelines that run exclusively through Saudi territory or just one other country an attractive proposition. Throughout the life of the Tapline it was vulnerable to sabotage and during the conflict in Lebanon the terminals were damaged and had to be shut down.

When the line finally closed in February the reason given was competition from tankers. Freight rates had fallen to the point where it was far cheaper to ship crude around the Cape in giant tankers. Industry sources say the real reason was the continuing pressure for higher pipeline dues from the countries through which it passed.

Work on the pipeline that will link the giant Ghawar oilfield to the port of Yanbu has already started. The route will take the line across the desert to the Red Sea through Bureidah and Medina. Yanbu has been chosen as the site for a large industrial complex based on petrochemicals and oil refining.

The pipeline will provide the feedstock for those new industries. A big export terminal is being built to handle exports of crude oil, and when the refinery is completed, it will handle refined products. It is placed strategically on the Red Sea coast, Yanbu is

ideally sited for large tankers which will make the run to Japan or by way of the Cape to Europe, and for the smaller tankers that will be moving crude into the Mediterranean through the Suez Canal. Refined products will also be moved in smaller ships which will use the Suez Canal.

While the pipeline to Yanbu provides an alternative to the Gulf ports for exports, vessels steaming south have to pass through the narrow Bab al-Mandab between the Yemens and Ethiopia, and Somalia, an area that is politically less stable than the Gulf.

The project to pipe oil from the Eastern Province to the Indian Ocean through South Yemen is perhaps the most ambitious of all. So far it has not got past the planning stage.

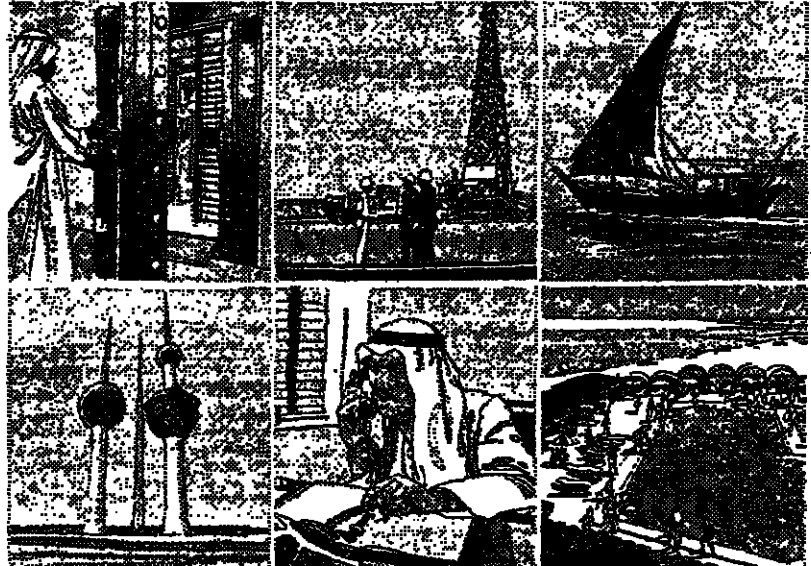
It would mean crossing almost the entire length of the Empty Quarter. But in Alaska the pipeline builders have proved that, provided the money is available, almost any hazard is surmountable. And if the Saudis decide that the pipeline is needed, money will be no object.

A Saudi decision to proceed with the line to South Yemen could interest other oil states in the Gulf who, like the Saudis, are well aware of the vulnerability of the Strait of Hormuz. Feeder lines could link the oilfields of Kuwait, Qatar and possibly the United Arab Emirates into the line, giving them the added security of access to the Indian Ocean.

The third line to the Indian Ocean, through Oman, was proposed in 1975 but was delayed first by the fighting in Dhofar and by the Saudi insistence that they should have complete sovereignty over the line, even where it passed through Omani territory.

Reports from the area suggest that Saudi Arabia and Oman are close to reaching an agreement that would permit the line to go ahead. Saudi Arabia is keen to develop the newly discovered Shaybah field but does not want to build another pipeline into the Gulf.

The compromise being discussed would allow the Saudis to lease a corridor of land from the border to a terminal in the southern part of Oman.

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Branches throughout the Kingdom have celebrated the Bank's Jubilee Year with continued development of their activities in all fields, as the following figures showing the last two years' progress indicate:

	1974	1975	1976	Percentage Inc. over last two yrs.
Total Budget	2165	4737	6410	196 %
Total Deposits	543	1194	1785	229 %
Total Revenues	38	90	160	321 %
Capital and Free Reserve Funds	30	60	100	233 %

(Figures in millions of Saudi Riyals)



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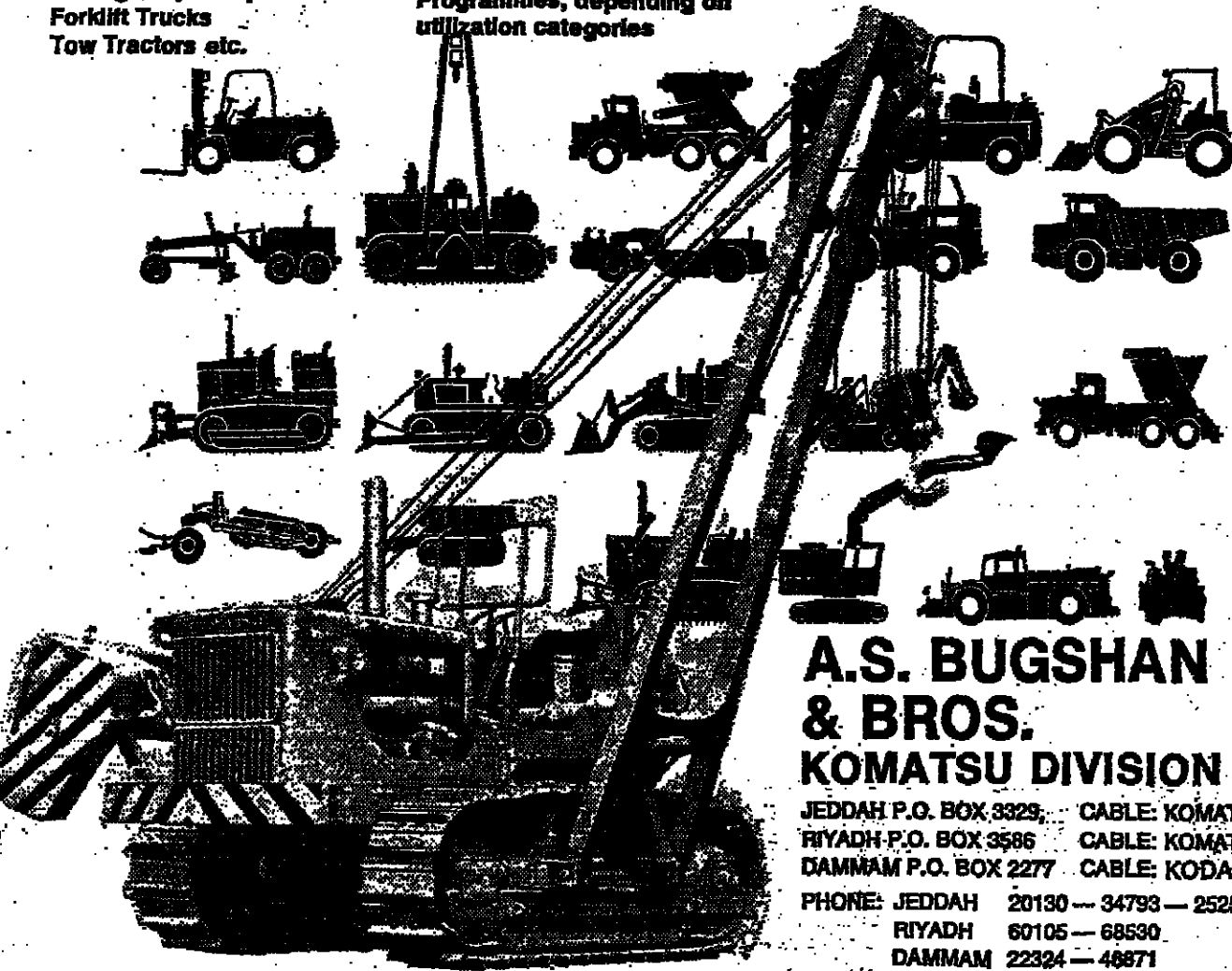
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# FOCUS ON

## DAMMAM PORT AND THE SAUDI TANKER FLEET

### Auction threat clears congestion

by Geoffrey Weston

The port of Dammam, the second in Saudi Arabia after Jeddah, which overshadows it in spite of having fewer berths at the present stage of development, serves the whole of the Eastern Province and Riyadh. Built in 1947, it was run until last June by the Saudi Government Railroad Organization, which also operates the country's only railway, between Dammam and Riyadh. The main imports are machinery and general cargo, since petroleum products do not pass through this port.

The 1973 oil boom, however, caused considerable congestion, although less than in Jeddah. The problem built up in 1975 and was solved by offshore unloading and a large influx of labour. The second bottleneck took the whole of last year to clear and the worst delays lasted four months.

All ports now operate under the Ports Authority of Saudi Arabia, set up just over a year ago under the dynamic leadership of Dr Faez Badr, who cleared congestion by the simple expedient of threatening to auction goods left in the ports more than 15 days — a measure rigorously adhered to.

Dammam port also has its own director-general, Muhammad Sulaiman, who coordinates operations between a largely Saudi staff and his management advisers, Gulf Port Management Services, a subsidiary of Mersey Docks and Harbour Board. The director-general now controls the port's finances and can take almost all decisions on the spot — a system which has resulted in greatly increased efficiency.

The entire port is built on reclaimed land and was originally connected to the mainland by a 5km causeway. Further reclamation has now pushed the sea out of sight of the causeway, which still remains the sole means of access. This factor simplifies security measures, which are especially strin-

gent on account of military installations and oil fields not far away.

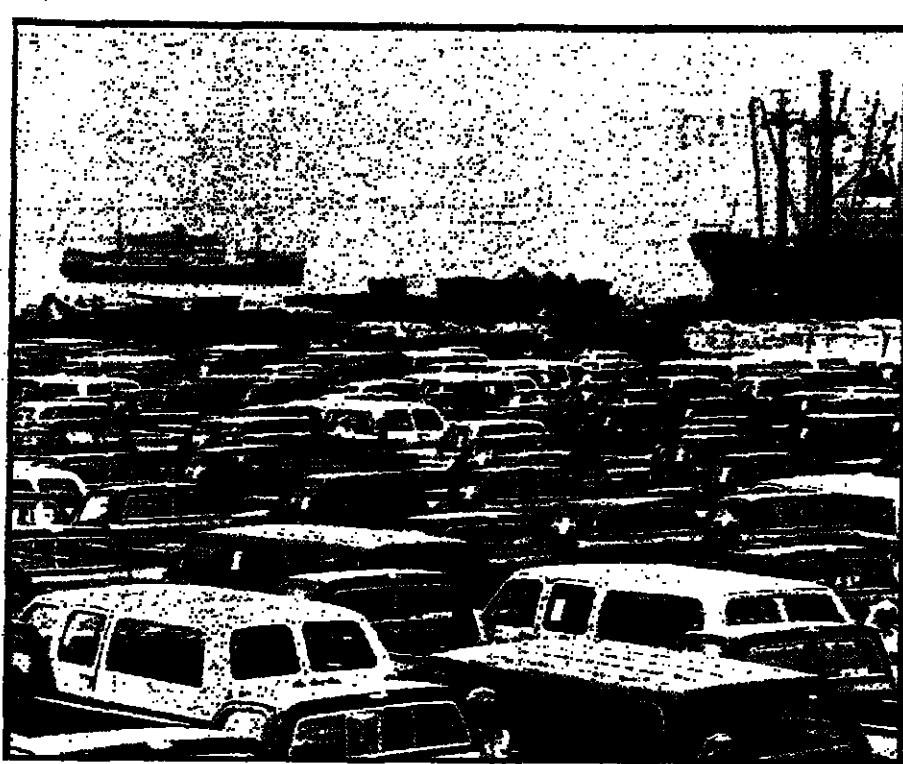
Seen from the air the port in its final planned form will resemble a trident pointing northwards. By the end of this year 24 berths will have been completed on the central and eastern prongs and by the early 1980s, 38 berths (compared with Jeddah's planned 45) are expected to be in operation, capable of handling 9,500,000 deadweight tons, although no more berths will be completed until 1979. The western prong will accommodate berths 36-38, the rest of it serving as a breakwater although clearly suitable for further expansion if necessary.

The port has been subsidised since it was built but current plans are to make all ports self-financing within five years. The current operating budget for Dammam is 442m rials, compared with 380m rials last year and 200m rials in 1975. This compares with a cargo throughput increase of 15-20 per cent a year.

Port equipment includes 300 forklift trucks, 100 trailers, 25 Mercedes trucks and 80 mobile cranes. Electricity supply has been a severe problem, but it is now under control, although not long ago a large number of new cranes were still awaiting further power supplies.

Four berths are reserved for cement handling. There is one roll-on, roll-off and container berth; two more existing berths will eventually be suitable for similar discharging and four more are planned. There are no gantry cranes but four are to be supplied for the new berths. At present, containers are handled by forklifts, trucks and shippers are required to some extent to supply their own handling equipment, such as extra large forklift trucks and containers and trailers. More efficient container handling methods will be in operation in 1979, when the next berths are in use.

At the end of the central arm are a flour mill and grain silos, run independently of the port, with a direct rail link to Riyadh. Seventy per cent of all house cargo leave the port immediately and 30 per cent is stored. Fifty per cent of all cargoes are delivered direct to consignees' trucks.



A shipment of cars from the United States awaiting collection on the dockside at Dammam. There are heavy penalties for failure to remove goods within a specified time.

Tight administrative control and close cooperation with consignees now results in very rapid speed of throughput. In July it was running at 19,000 tons a day and efficiency is aided by Dr Badr's obsession with cleanliness and tidiness.

Container and roll-on, roll-off berths may be occupied for a maximum of 72 hours. One ship that failed to give correct notice of arrival was fined 25,000 rials, and rules, as every-

where else in Saudi Arabia, are rigidly applied. On the density of the port, with a free direct rail link to Riyadh, for 10 days, the inland warehouse shortage is rapidly disappearing and there are vast storage areas at the mainland end of the causeway.

The total absence of labour disputes makes progress much smoother, allowing for ponderous bureaucratic procedures in the early stages. Nowhere has this been more dramatically illustrated than in the construction work on the port extensions (much of it dredging), which runs to 5km a day.

The scale of operation is such that one 22km project is only a subsidiary development. Congestion in the port has not caused expansion to fall behind schedule

and contractors have been compelled to adhere rigidly to their deadlines, supply their own labour (much of it Yemeni), housing and construction equipment.

In spite of the continuing rise in imports, further congestion should be kept at bay not only by the expansion of the port of Dammam itself, but also through the massive port development at Jubail, 90km to the north. The contractors for the port expansion are Archibon (Athens) in the eastern section and in the western section the same company is working with Interbeten, a Dutch firm, and DCZ, owned by Philip Holmann, of West Germany. The consulting engineers are the British firm Sir Bruce White Wolf-Barrie.

### Shipping ambitions hit by lack of trained men

by Peter Hill

They lie motionless in Norwegian fjords, at Piraeus and at Walvis Bay and at other deep and safe anchorages around the globe. Manned by skeleton crews and rusting slowly, the very large crude carriers represent the costly epitaph of the world shipping industry's headlong rush to build even larger oil tankers in the late 1960s in the days when demand for oil grew ceaselessly and when larger and larger tankers offered owners the prospect of increased operating efficiency.

But the fourfold increase in the price of oil and the Arab oil embargo of 1973, which threw the world into economic turmoil from which it has still to recover, ensured that the operational life of many of the oil tankers was shortened dramatically. Freight rates plummeted, tankers were forced to move oil on voyages between The Gulf and Western Europe, Japan and the United States at rates which barely covered the operating costs. Ship-

owners, many of them blue chip companies, found themselves saddled with huge debts and the past few years since the oil crisis have seen no easing of the privations suffered by the tanker owners.

There remains a massive tanker surplus, which is unlikely to be removed for some years, and certainly not before the early 1980s. Owners, bankers and governments have been involved in vigorous attempts to devise measures to resolve the crisis, but with little success so far. The shipbuilding industry faced with cancellations of tanker orders or the conversion of tankers to other types of ship has been thrown into confusion and still finds it difficult to reconcile its ambitious ex-

pansion plans to the collapse of the tanker market.

The oil producing and exporting nations appeared at one time to offer some respite from the acute difficulties which their oil policies prompted. Enjoying huge revenues from sales of oil and an almost insatiable demand for imports of manufactured goods from the developed world their involvement in downstream industrial activities — transportation in particular — appeared at one time to offer some prospect of partial if not total salvation for many owners and builders of ships in the developed world.

But the ambitious fleet development plans of some producing countries failed to build up the momentum which many expected. The reason is quite simple. Arab oil producers, and particularly Saudi Arabia, have been affected by the same factors that have hit the established shipping companies. With the tanker market still in a state of acute depression, offering owners little or no return, the Arab nations involved in fleet expansion policies have had little incentive to pursue those policies as they had originally intended. Equally the marine transportation of oil has been severely affected by the tanker crisis.

Ship world faces the further constraint of a lack of trained and efficient manpower. Two years ago Arab shipping leaders were talking in terms of the principal Arab oil-producing nations exporting some 60 per cent of their production in Arab flag tankers by the end of next year. That target implied a total of 400 tankers sailing under the flags of the leading Arab maritime nations by the end of 1978. But in fact the present Arab tanker fleet amounts to little over four million tons deadweight, representing a mere handful compared with the expected requirements of two years ago.

That is especially true of the largest oil-producing nation in the Middle East, Saudi Arabia, where huge oil

exports have resulted in massive oil revenues yet the merchant fleet, including oil tankers, remains small. There have been a number of joint venture shipping companies established between local and foreign interests to pursue the development of a domestic shipping fleet in line with the diversion of resources from oil revenue into capital investment in downstream activities.

Some of the funds for fleet development have been made available through the Saudi Industrial Development Fund, which offers low interest finance. But in a detailed study of the fleet expansion plans of Middle East oil producers last year, H. P. Drewry\* (shipping consultants) noted that the SIFD had turned away applications for funds from 10 shipping companies, in which interest, has a fleet. The Red Maritime Can

Salina, in which the Swedish Salen actively have an interest, with 4 tankers. There privately owned Saudi shipping companies which are into tanker They include Maritime Trans and the Company.

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"The Involvement Exporting Co International Sh Drewry, £30.

The author is Correspondent,

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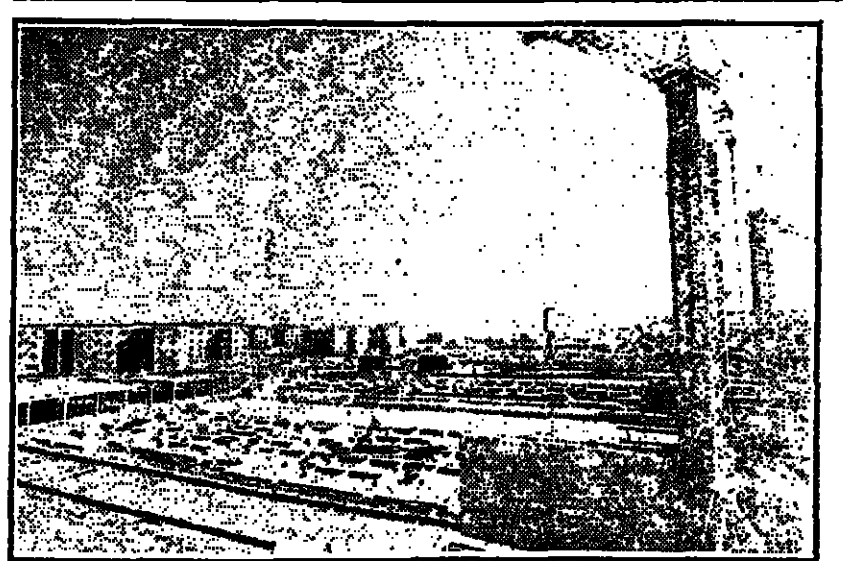
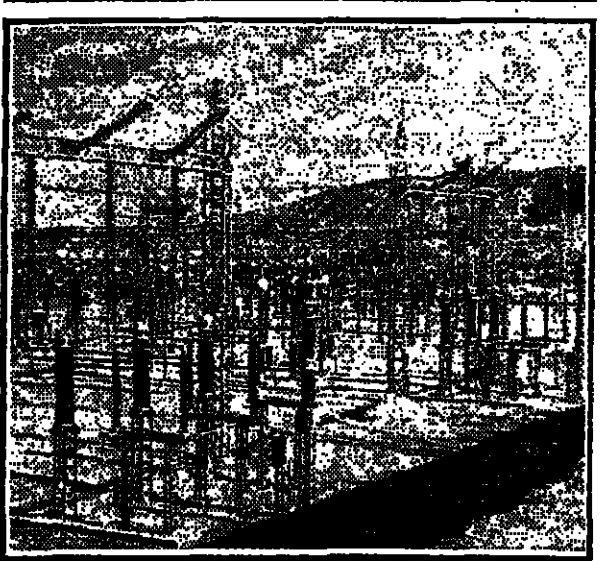
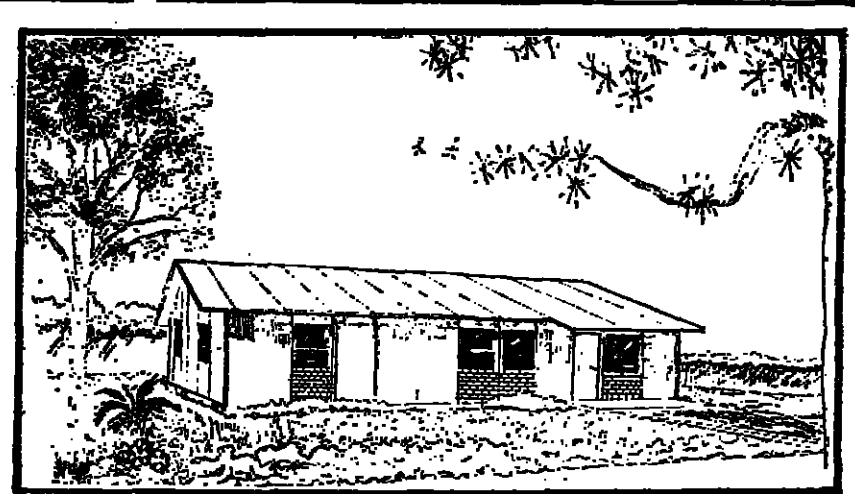
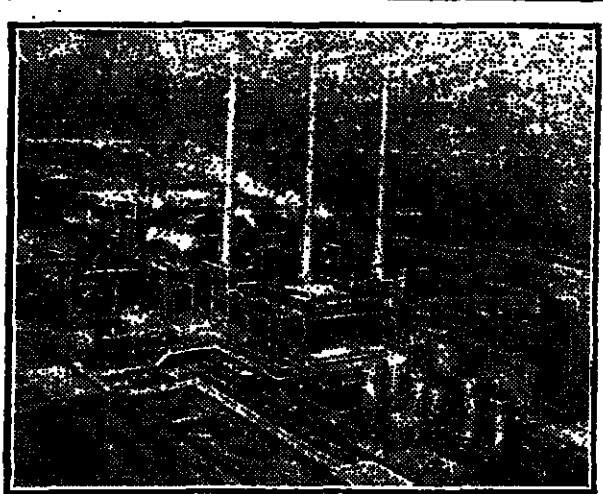
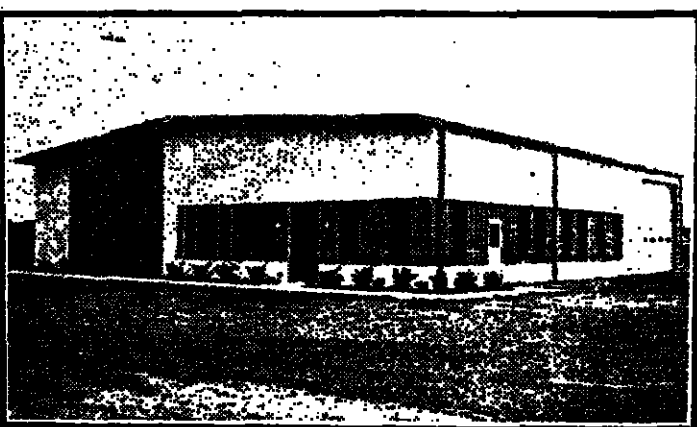
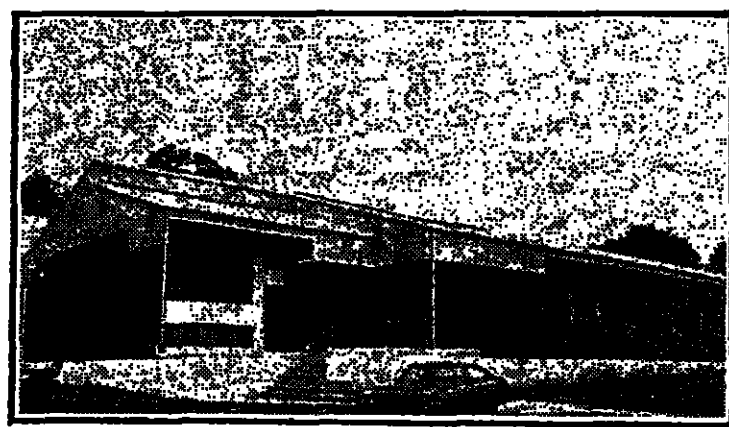
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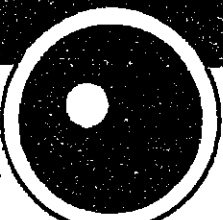




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## FOCUS ON

ARAMCO, PETROMIN AND OFFSHORE OIL

### Talks drag on over nationalization

by Roger Vielvoye

Almost every aspect of life in the Eastern Province is touched by the activities of the Arabian American Oil Co. (Aramco). Apart from being the world's largest crude oil producer, Aramco is the biggest single employer and works in areas not normally associated with an oil company whose prime concern is exploration and production of oil.

These outside activities range from organizing the electrification of the province; building the world's largest gas gathering network; helping with the development of communications; owning a large fleet of aircraft; and providing help and advice for local businessmen and farmers.

Aramco is still officially 60 per cent owned by the Government with the remaining 40 per cent held by four American oil companies—Exxon, Mobil, Texaco and the Standard Oil Company of California (Socal), which founded the company and began production just before the start of the Second World War.

Negotiations over the government plans for taking over the 40 per cent company stake have dragged on throughout the year and are still bogged down in the final details of the extremely complex transaction.

At stake has been compensation for the companies on the value of their net book assets and a fee, related to the level of national output, in payment for Aramco continuing to run the oil fields on behalf of the state.

Reports from sources close to these negotiations suggest that the four groups will be paid \$1,500m for their equity share and that their service fee for undertaking production and marketing operations for the Saudis will be 21 cents a barrel, of which six cents will be a fixed charge for exploration work.

The payments will be made on the basis of barrels produced, not those exported.

This means that if current production of about 8,500,000 barrels a day is continued, they would receive service payments of \$650m annually.

This would be in addition to any profits made by the four companies from buying Saudi oil at the market price. The four companies would remain as preferential customers and are trying to secure a clause in the agreement which would prevent the Saudi Government from selling oil to third parties at a discount without giving the same terms to the former equity partners.

In return the Saudis have proposed that there should be fines levied on the Aramco partners should they fail to lift the amounts of oil specified under their contract because of changes in the market or in prices.

In addition to the Government's 100 per cent takeover of Aramco the state is also pressing for a 50 per cent share in the ownership of the Ras Tanura refinery. It also seems likely that the agreement will allow the companies to continue their exploration work until the end of the concession in 1999.

A 100 per cent state takeover will require some re-organization of the massive Aramco machine. Ideas on what should happen to the company when the state takes over have changed considerably since the negotiations started. Initially the Saudis favoured the idea of dividing the country's oil operations into three and putting them under the control of separate companies.

Aramco would have been confined to an exploration and production role while all aspects of the industry, including domestic and international marketing and development, would have been transferred to Petromin and a new state company.

Each of the three groups would have been autonomous but would have worked to a general oil development plan. But after looking at the experience of some of its neighbours who tried similar multi-state company operations after nationalization, the Saudis are having second thoughts. These seemingly complementary state groups instead of working together

have competed with each other for staff and prestige rather than going out and promoting the country's industry against its competitors.

Although the first oil was produced from Saudi Arabia in 1938, the history of the company goes back much further. In the late 1920s and 1930s, only the Standard Oil Company of California was interested in Saudi Arabia. After a series of competitive and complex negotiations in competition with the British groups that dominated the industry in Iraq and Iran, Socal obtained a concession in 1933. Texaco became a partner in the venture three years later and soon after the end of the Second World War Exxon and Mobil joined them.

The additional partners were necessary once it became clear just how much oil there was in Saudi Arabia. Oil companies normally guard their discoveries jealously but the size of the reserves, even in the limited form known 25 years ago, was too much for just two companies to handle.

Since then the Aramco facilities have grown year by year as new fields have been brought on stream and the productive capacity of existing reservoirs has been increased. In 1976 Aramco achieved the remarkable record of becoming the only company in the world to have produced more than 3,000 million barrels of oil in a year. Total production reached 3,053 million barrels by the end of the year—a 22.6 per cent increase over 1975. Cumulative production since Aramco began operations in 1938 is now nearly 30,000 million barrels. It took until 1952 to reach the first 1,000 million barrels but since then this output is now flowing annually and could increase even further if political conditions improved.

Building oil production to its present level and achieving about 200,000 barrels a day of natural gas liquids has required enormous investment. In 1976 Aramco spent \$2,000m on property, plant and equipment for the oil field development programme, the electrification

scheme and the gas gathering project.

Aramco's need for good communications to run its wide empire has brought benefits for the local telecommunications network. It has built its own computer-controlled telephone exchanges in Dhahran, Abqaiq and Ras Tanura and installed additional microwave links and new trunk lines into the national telephone system.

The company also has a fleet of aircraft that might be envied by many smaller airlines. It has seven helicopters and 14 fixed-wing aircraft. Its marine fleet for use in Saudi waters is also impressively large. In 1976 it added 12 new tugs and workboats, bringing the Aramco fleet to 15 vessels.

Apart from requiring more vessels, the development of offshore oilfields has increased the company's interest in the environment of The Gulf. The company has also become a member of the Government's Environmental Protection Committee. It has established new environmental criteria, including water quality standards, and has published the results of several years of marine biological study in The Gulf.

At the end of last year Aramco's staff had risen by 5.5 per cent to more than 20,000 while the number of Americans employed dropped to about 1,700. The company has been steadily increasing its employment benefits and some aspects of these, particularly medical care, are now open to non-Aramco staff. In this sector the company has public health and preventive medicine programme which in 1976 did research on blood diseases and the local incidence of cancer.

Aramco also guaranteed a loan for a company expanding and improving a hospital. It also provided technical assistance to 75 businessmen in 1976 through the Saudi Industrial Development and gave similar help to farmers and poultrymen in the province. Farms that received this assistance produced more than 12 million kilos of vegetables in 1976—a 25 per cent increase over the previous year.

### Strict controls protect vast resources

by Frank Frazer

Were it not for Saudi Arabia's massive inland oil potential and the careful management of resources to which the authorities are committed, the waters of The Gulf off the Eastern Province would probably have become one of the hot spots in the search for offshore oil.

The rate at which exploration, development and production of offshore oil takes place in the Saudi sector of The Gulf is regulated by Aramco, the state-controlled oil operating company which now owns all present production in the zone off the Eastern Province.

Yet, despite the fact that existing projects are capable of supplementing the country's inland oil production to an extent which would meet the most strenuous peak demands, there has been no shortage of exploration in recent years to prove additional fields which some day could be developed.

Last year Aramco has had its own two jack-up rigs and two others on charter working in the concession area. While some of the wells were drilled to assess earlier finds, at least one new offshore discovery was made in 1976 to boost the total finds in that sector of The Gulf to about 12.

Best known of the fields is Safaniya. It is reputed to be the world's largest offshore oilfield with reserves of more than 10,000 million barrels. A small segment of the field is shared with Kuwait through an extension of the reservoir into the water off the Neutral Zone between the two countries.

Aramco has recently undertaken an expansion of production facilities at the field which should boost output to 2,750,000 barrels a

day, compared with the previous peak of about 100,000 a day.

The second largest producing field is the Berri discovery, which is partly on land. It has recorded daily average output of about 900,000 barrels, compared with the peak capacity of some 200,000 barrels a day which can be produced by the Zuluf field, another large find off the shore of the Eastern Province.

More than a third of the country's installed oil production capacity is believed to be situated offshore. But the fields in The Gulf have been among the first to be cut back in output at times of slack market demand.

This has economic logic, given that the cost of developing and operating an offshore oilfield is several times that of producing oil on land.

### Slack demand reduced production

This was illustrated during the 'slack market' demand in 1975 when Saudi Arabia's overall oil output was reduced to an average of 7,200,000 barrels a day compared with more than 8,500,000 barrels which had been produced in the previous year. Only about 25 per cent of the Saudi output in 1975 was drawn from the offshore fields and for a time both the Zuluf field and the Marjan discovery, which is shared with Iran, were shut down because of the market position.

On the other hand, the existence of excess offshore capacity gives Saudi Arabia increased flexibility to increase production rapidly if circumstances dictate such a policy. This looked like happening after last December's Opec meeting in Geneva when the Saudis, with the neighbouring United Arab Emirates, wanted to keep price rises to 5 per cent compared with the 10 per cent increase demanded by the others.

Some observers then speculated that Saudi Arabia would use its ability rapidly to increase production as a means of flooding the market with cheaper oil and thus undermining the sale of the more expensive oil being offered by the other states. It was predicted that the Saudis could let their production rate soar as high as 12 million barrels a day.

But this did not happen and, with the Opec split now resolved, it seems more likely that the country's output will remain in the eight million to nine million barrels a day range.

The enormous capital wealth the country has already generated and the sheer size of the income from its present rate of output, which last year made the Saudis the world's second largest oil producer after the Soviet Union, will provide for the country's massive development programme requirements for the foreseeable future.

This means there is no compulsion to rush ahead with the development of a number of the more recently discovered offshore fields in the Gulf waters which have added names like Karun, Fars, Maharah, Ribhan, Kuryan and Lawah to the oil concession maps.

Priority in offshore engineering development throughout the Gulf is being given to the schemes to minimize the flaring of natural gas rather than to produce more oil at a time when world energy demand patterns remain uncertain.

When there is a need for Saudi Arabia to develop more of the oil reserves lying off the Eastern Province, the technology required will be minimal compared with North Sea standards.

Water depths tend to be from 25 to 30 metres and platform designers need to cater for freak waves—expected only once in a century—of no more than 10 metres in height compared with waves at least three times as large that have to be expected in the North Sea.

The author is energy correspondent, The Scotsman.

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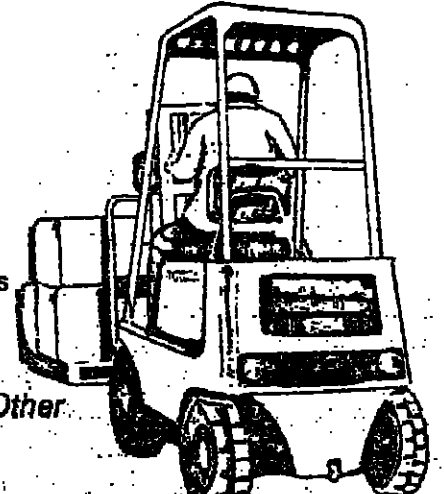
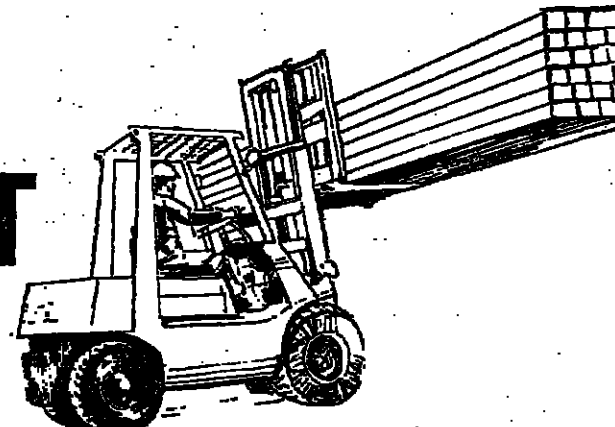
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# FOCUS ON

## AGRICULTURE AND RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

### Nagging doubts about real value

by David Holden

There is a legend in Al Hasa, the biggest oasis of the Eastern Province, that the Prophet Muhammad once blessed its water in return for the hospitality of its people. Certainly, the water there has flowed fresh and free for as long as men have been settled in eastern Arabia, which takes us back at least 10,000 years to somewhere before the Prophet's day.

It is not surprising, therefore, that such a plentiful and well-known source should now, in the age of oil wealth and modern technology, be the inspiration of a new search for even greater water resources in the Eastern Province and of hopes of agricultural expansion that might help significantly to reduce Saudi Arabia's overwhelming dependence on imported food supplies.

As far as is known, almost all the available fresh water in the Eastern Province is a mixture of more or less current rainfall (called "recharge" and ancient, or "fossil", water. In the absence of anything but marginal local rainfall, however, both seem to derive from the same distant source—rain falling on the western mountains of Arabia, probably up to more than 20,000 years ago, and trickling down the eastward sloping areas to form vast underground reservoirs far below the eastern coast.

What is not known is the proportion of recharge to fossil water, what total quantities are available and where, how sweet any new resources may be and what sort of extraction would be maintained without risking exhaustion of the reservoirs.

To answer these questions is the task now being undertaken by a British consortium at the invitation of the Saudi Ministry of Agriculture. The contract, awarded earlier this year to Groundwater Development Consultants International (combining Hunting Technical Services and the consulting engineers Sir Murdoch Macdonald & Partners) is expected to take three and a half years to complete and will be worth £23m.

If experience in Al Hasa is any guide, the technical outlook for agricultural expansion is fairly favourable. This vast oasis, covering about 50,000 acres, is probably the most densely peopled part of Saudi Arabia outside the major cities.

But Al Hasa also provides a number of lessons in how the desert can take its revenge on careless farming. Fifteen years ago, over-use of its existing resources had led the oasis to the brink of disaster.

Luckily, the decline was checked when the Saudi Government in cooperation with Aramco, brought in foreign experts in the 1960s to begin a complete reconstruction of Al Hasa's water system.



A team from Groundwater Development Consultants International taking soil samples.

As a result, the area under cultivation has been nearly doubled, from 8,000 to 15,000 acres, and plans have been drafted to raise the eventual figure to 40,000 acres. Many new crops have been introduced including wheat, rye, maize and potatoes to join the traditional Arabian fruits and vegetables like melons.

Most of these are now rotated to give two crops a year and alfalfa—grown extensively to feed local cattle and sheep—is cut almost non-stop, once a month. The redevelopment of Al Hasa has also attracted a number of research teams anxious to establish new cultural techniques for desert farming. A group from Taiwan is experimenting with new vegetable crops, another from the University of Braunschweig in West Germany is investigating soil mechanics and irrigation methods and a third from the University of Wales is examining the effects of irrigation on arid pastureland for sheep and cattle.

Undoubtedly the potential exists for further expansion in Al Hasa and probably elsewhere in the Eastern Province provided that money and technology continue to be available. But there remains a nagging question that is as much philosophical and social as technical and economic: will all the effort be worth while?

On strict economic grounds it might be cheaper to continue importing most of Saudi Arabia's food than to develop, at great cost, new domestic sources of supply. Fertilizers and feed concentrates all have to be imported anyway and without those any new irrigation schemes may be of little value. A startling example of the economic penalty that

by Roger Vielvoys

The unreliability of the electricity supply system in many parts of the Middle East is legendary. For many daily power cuts had become part of the way of life and the rapid increase in living standards over the past four years and the resulting upsurge in the use of all sorts of electrical appliances in the home, industry and commerce provoked fears at one time that the generating systems would not stand the strain and would break down completely.

But the oil revenues that brought the higher living standards have also enabled governments to invest more money in their electricity supply systems. Unfortunately for them it is much easier to buy the electrical

trimmings of a consumer society than it is to reinforce and expand the complex electricity generation and distribution networks to deal with increased demand.

Saudi Arabia, by ploughing huge sums of money into electricity generation, has so far managed to keep its supply system marginally ahead of the rising demand for power. To the surprise of many there have been remarkably few power cuts and there is growing optimism that the reorganization of the industry will keep supply and demand roughly in balance.

A strange mixture of private enterprise and public money has been employed to ensure the country's electricity supplies. There are six large power supply companies dealing with the main centres of population but scattered throughout the

country there are a further 50 private utilities. All have received long-term, interest-free loans from the Saudi Industrial Development Fund for expansion projects, but at the same time they have been encouraged by the Government to build themselves into an integrated network linked by a national grid rather than a series of separate private enterprises.

The fund has so far approved advances to 2,000m rials mostly to the large electricity companies, although not all the money for development work comes from the state. Money from private sources is not invested with any real risk attached since the Government guarantees what it terms a fair return on investments.

Through large subsidies the Government is able to guarantee that operators in the urban areas can make a

7 per cent return and their smaller country counterparts a 10 per cent return. More than 770m rials have been reserved for subsidies which enables the utilities to keep tariffs down to 0.07 rials per kWh for domestic users with industrial customers faring even better.

Any analysis of the country's power system showed the need for integration. The network was completely fragmented with two different working voltages and two grid frequencies, making it almost impossible for one part of the country to assist another during peak demand periods.

Standardization combined with a national grid could give the basis for expansion that was needed, if it was to meet the target of expanding the generating capacity by 3,300 megawatts by 1980. That is more than double the figures of the mid-1970s

and would increase the number of people served by the electricity companies from 2,300,000 to nearly four million.

To handle a project of that size—the probable cost is about 8,000m rials—the Ministry of Industry and Electricity was reorganized. Initially the plan is to ensure that the regions of Saudi Arabia become integrated internally and later to connect them through a national grid.

In the Eastern Region the job of integration was given to the Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco) the biggest industrial task force in the area and one with unique knowledge of local conditions. It was particularly important that investment was speedily and expertly carried out in view of the plans to concentrate large industrial complexes which are being built around the country.

While the Saudis are using more and more natural gas for electricity generation, it is a fuel that is being removed from the power stations in Europe and North America. Saudi Arabia will also have a source of power generation that will not be generally available outside the Middle East—water desalination plants.

In an effort to ensure that best use is made of available resources, the Government has ruled that the waste heat from the distillation process should be channelled into an associated power generation plant. The first big desalination plant in Jeddah has an electricity generating capacity of about 50 MW and an expansion of the plant will add another 80 MW. Similar amounts of power will be available from the series of other desalination plants which are being built around the country.



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# FOCUS ON

## THE RAILWAY, THE OVERLAND ROUTE TO EUROPE AND MANPOWER NEEDS

### Superb views from slow train to Riyadh

by David Shirreff

Time-conscious businessmen and oil executives do not take the train from Dammam to Riyadh. Travelling on Saudi Arabia's only operating railway is a pleasure reserved for people with eight hours to spare to do the journey of 562 kilometres.

The train leaves unpunctually at midday from Dammam. At the same time a second train departs from Riyadh, the other end of the single track line. The two trains cross in the middle of their journey at a point where the line is double for a short distance.

After 8 pm, when both passenger trains have safely reached their destinations, the line is reserved for freight.

So only a small proportion of the goods transported to Riyadh reach it by rail. Most is hauled in by lorry from Jiddah, Dammam or overland through Jordan.

Thinking that the train would be full, I called at Dammam station to buy my ticket the day before I intended to travel. There was no need, I was told. I should simply turn up the next day at noon. Friends had advised me to go first class, in air-conditioned luxury.

As I turned up, late, the next day, people and bundles were being hauled into the carriages. There were no Europeans. Most of the passengers were flowing white shobas, some cleaner than others. Children clung to the black, veiled shapes of their mothers. The first-class carriages were still quite empty, and compared with the temperature outside, almost chilly.

The train moved out of Dammam, picking its way through depots of timber and lorries, passing the freight junction that led to

the busy port, and off south-west to the first bank of low hills. Although the air-conditioning was comfortable, mist had built up between the double camping, obscuring most of the view. I moved out to the end of the carriage where there was an open platform with all-round vision.

That is where I stayed for most of the trip, although it was like sitting in a hot oven, with glare and dust attacking the eyes.

The view was superb. As we progressed at little more than walking pace I saw the huge compounds of equipment stored by the Arabian American Oil Company (Aramco). Regimental rows of oil pipes were stacked like drinking straws, and acres on acres of lorries, drilling gear and cables were all neatly grouped behind wire.

The train continued to climb and before long it was skirting desert sand dunes; huge smooth and muscular shapes; some rounded, some with sharp ribs and precarious-looking crests.

It seemed that every year or so the railway must be engulfed by the inexorable progress of the dunes.

On each side of the track the sand had been stabilized by long gobs of crude oil hardened in the sun. Jeep tracks ran alongside the train. I thought that we would soon find ourselves in virgin desert where not a mark was to be seen since the making of the railway, but I was wrong.

At almost every stage in the journey there was evidence of man-made things. There was the distant pall of a gas flare, hints of a road, primitive huts made of railway sleepers, a pipeline.

Abqaiq slipped past to the south, a huge complex of gas flares, smoke billows, domes, tanks and pipes. The road followed us into Abqaiq town. Lorries and cars chased in both directions like toys, then the road veered off to the west and left us to continue south towards the edge of the real desert, the Empty Quarter.

At times, as the train climbed uphill, it progressed so slowly that I could have got down and walked beside it. The contours and colours of the rocky changed subtly as the train slipped by.

On the right of the track a strange settlement of white plastic igloos appeared. Further on there was the white-powdered chaos of a gypsum plant, snowing over several acres of the surrounding desert.

We came to Al-Hufuf, the biggest oasis in Saudi Arabia. A tawny green carpet of palm trees seemed to stretch for miles over the plain. A crowd of new passengers with bundles got on. The carriage had completely filled up with families and old men. A Syrian vet talked about his sheep and the desert slipped past behind misty windows.

Beside us the old men appeared to be having a religious discussion, or rather, they seemed to be delivering long homilies in turn, punctuated with invocations.

It was just before the annual Haj and they were on their way to Mecca. Three or four times during the journey a muezzin's call would sound from the next carriage. The old men rose and filed into a wagon with several prayer mats on the floor. After five or ten minutes of prayer they came back.

Haradh, nothing more than a collection of huts, is the southernmost point of the railway. After that the line turns west towards Riyadh. The Syrian was picked up by Jeep and the rest of us got off the train to stretch our legs. The bustle suggested that the arrival of the train was a great event, though it happened every day.

The train stopped at Al-Kharj, after which the distant lights each side of the track suggested habitation all the way into Riyadh. We arrived at the Saudi capital at about nine o'clock, and the only means of getting into town was a taxi, which cost about the same as the rail ticket from Dammam.

by Rodney Wilson

Although port congestion has eased at Dammam, the overland route for sending freight to the Eastern Province is still popular. For exporters the main attraction is that it is much faster than shipping and even rivals air freight when collection and delivery times are taken into account.

Asran, the oldest-established British firm in the Middle East road haulage business, quotes its clients a journey time of 12 to 15 days from the South-east of England to any destination in the Jubail-Dammam-Hofuf area. This is a great improvement on the journey time 18 months ago when there were long delays on the Turkish and other frontiers.

Now the customs officers are accustomed to dealing with the greatly increased volume of overland traffic from the Middle East, the frontier congestion has been eliminated and fast transit times can be almost guaranteed.

As far as the Eastern Province is concerned, road transport represents probably the safest way of ensuring that a consignment arrives intact, as with most British hauliers it is escorted throughout by just one experienced British driver, rather than passed from one handler to another.

The advantage is greatest for small loads, where a group service is offered by the overland hauliers. In the case of Saudi Arabia this type of service is particularly effective, as once a consignment is cleared at the border it can make any number of stops without further customs checks. By contrast, in Iran there are present five-year plans and checks at each offloading point for group loads, which can lengthen the journey time to the final destination considerably.

The usual route to Dammam from Europe is through Turkey, Syria and Jordan, rather than by Iraq.

The Iraqis often delay unnecessarily loads destined for the Gulf coast as a result of the strained political relations with their southern neighbours, and there are usually difficulties in obtaining the necessary visas for drivers.

To avoid this uncertainty most hauliers prefer to deal with the Syrians and Jordanians, and the latter especially are keen to encourage the use of their country for transit purposes as this earns them useful foreign exchange.

Recently these earnings have been increased as Syria and Jordan have followed Turkey's lead by introducing transit taxes. These are levied at 0.5 per cent of the cost insurance freight value of the consignment in the case of Jordan, while the Syrians ask for 0.3 per cent of the cost value.

This has led to some arguments as freight valued £20,000 in Britain for example may be valued at £30,000 in Syria or Jordan because of the high tariff levels they impose on imported goods.

Hauliers and their clients should check on this before sending loads overland to Dammam; if there is any ambiguity over the value of consignments, disputes seem certain.

From the Jordanian border the usual overland route to Dammam is along the Tap line by way of the Tappan, Arar, Rafia and Qadisiyah. Despite the harsh desert conditions and the rugged nature of the terrain, this is one of the fastest sections of the whole trip, as the road is well surfaced. The standard of Saudi roads is high and improving, with \$2,936m being spent on road construction during the course of the present five-year plan, and \$648m on road maintenance.

The largest single communications project in the Eastern Province will be the building of a 24-mile causeway linking Bahrain with the Saudi mainland. When completed the \$300m causeway will mean that over-

land haulage operators to the Eastern Province will also be able to offer Bahrain as a destination for their group services. This should provide the port of Bahrain with some healthy competition.

During the past year the overland hauliers have been facing increasing competition from roll-on roll-off services. These are a more attractive proposition for the western part of Saudi Arabia than the east, however, as only Jiddah and Yambo have facilities for this type of operation and the voyage to Dammam is more lengthy in any case.

Nevertheless, some forwarding agents offer a service to the Eastern Province via Jiddah, as there is now an excellent east-west highway linking Jiddah with Riyadh and the Jubail-Dammam-Hofuf area. Despite this the service still takes up to 20 days, which is significantly longer than the direct overland route from Europe.

The increasing use made of the Suez Canal by roll-on roll-off vessels is posing a threat to the overland hauliers to Saudi Arabia, especially with regard to their full-load services, but at the same time the volume of freight is such that other services are being developed which may help the haulage industry's long-term prospects.

Roll-on roll-off services are now operating from Felixstowe and Marseilles to the port of Latakia in Syria, and Beirut hopes to handle roll-on roll-off loads soon now that peace has been restored. From Syria the loads are sent overland direct to the Eastern Province by way of Jordan, thus saving the Suez Canal dues.

For fairly high-value loads the direct overland route to the Eastern Province remains economically attractive, especially the road services for small loads.

Dr Wilson of Durham University is a specialist in Middle East economics.

### Saudis not too happy at immigrant invasion

Saudi Arabia has become almost completely dependent on immigrant labour to undertake its ambitious new development projects, and nowhere is this more evident than in the sparsely-populated Eastern Province.

As the centre of the kingdom's enormous oil industry, the province has had more experience of dealing with immigrants than the other parts of the country, especially non-Arab labour.

Most of the 1,200 Americans working for Aramco, for example, are found in the Eastern region, often living in isolated settlements in the desert far away from the important centres. Historically, these centres themselves, such as the port of Dammam and the city of Dhahran, owe much of their growth to an influx of foreign labour, especially Iranians from across the Gulf and Indians and Pakistanis from farther east.

Today the greater Dammam area, including Dhahran and Al-Khobar, boasts a population of more than 175,000, making it the third-largest urban area in the country, while nearby Hofuf has expanded to more than 100,000 inhabitants.

Despite the high wage and salary levels prevailing in Saudi Arabia it is not always possible to find workers easily, especially those with skills to offer. This is a particular problem in Eastern Province, as it is distant from North Yemen, the main source for the kingdom's manual workforce.

At the same time many of the Iranians formerly resident on the Arab side of the Gulf have now returned to their own country as a result of the bountiful labour market conditions there, and substitutes are not readily available. To some extent the gap is being filled by new arrivals from the Indian sub-continent, and recently a consortium of Indian companies opened a business development office in Dammam.

This aims to win contracts and sub-contracts in the Eastern Province and beyond, and the Indian firms involved are only too keen to provide all of the necessary labour.

The Saudis are not entirely happy about seeing large numbers of Indian and Pakistani arrivals, despite the latter being low Muslims. Elsewhere in the Gulf these immigrants have established their own sub-culture within the societies, and it seems doubtful if the majority will ever leave even when the demand for labour eventually slackens.

More than 65 per cent of the 12,000-strong Saudi workforce is made up of immigrant workers, and their numbers have almost doubled during the past three and a half years since the marked increase in petroleum revenue. In the oil-rich Eastern Province the proportion of immigrants is particularly high, as so many new projects are being put into effect simultaneously. Development of the industrial estate at Dammam, for instance, will increase demand for labour substantially, as it is the largest in area in the entire country, with 32 industrial lots rented already, and seven plants under construction.

Another estate is planned for Jubail, where two refineries, a petrochemical plant and a giant steel works are to be located. The expected labour force requirements for the Jubail area alone are expected to exceed 24,000 workers. In addition large numbers of unskilled labourers will be needed for public service projects including the Saudi-Bahrain causeway and port development at Jubail, Ras al-Qasr and Dammam. Nine hundred Egyptians have recently been contracted to work on the latter.

The large influx of immigrants has led the National Security Council in Riyadh to fear that Saudis could soon be a minority in their own country. Yet there is a

reluctance to slow the pace of development, and as the Saudi legislation which stipulates that local citizens must comprise three quarters of the workforce in each enterprise is still being held in abeyance, those undertaking projects in Eastern Province do not have to conform to this regulation.

Prospective employers of immigrants do, however, have to satisfy the authorities that no Saudis are available to carry out the work, and that suitable training schemes will be arranged for local citizens to enable them to take up permanent employment eventually in any enterprise established. Employers are also expected to arrange accommodation for their workforce, which can prove difficult in the towns of Eastern Province, where demand in the housing market is well in excess of supply.

Fortunately the situation will be relieved by the end of next year when OGEH of the Netherlands completes its \$3.7m contract to build 32 blocks of flats in Dammam, each with 18 storeys. Other important contracts in Eastern Province include 4,140 housing units in Al-Khobar, and 500 units in Qatif.

One of the most interesting developments in the past three years in Eastern Arabia has been what is commonly spoken of in Dammam today as the Korean invasion. Faced with a massive balance of payments deficit caused by the rising price of oil imports in the aftermath of the 1973-74 crisis, the Seoul Government decided to make a determined effort to increase its penetration of the Middle East market.

Hence South Korean construction and engineering firms were encouraged to tender for Middle East contracts, and in this they met with considerable success. From a modest but encouraging start in 1974, when earnings amounted to \$100m, the figure rose to an impressive \$750m last year.

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# FOCUS ON

## MINERAL AND BUSINESS PROSPECTS

### In search of long-term prosperity

by Desmond Quigley

Several mineral exploration teams are working in Saudi Arabia to assess the possibility of establishing a new base for the country's prosperity in the post-oil era, and also in the hope of validating the vision of Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani that the kingdom will become one of the world's biggest exporters of minerals in the next 20 years.

The search for base and precious metals, as well as for an alternative energy source, uranium, can be seen in terms of generating another principal exporting industry and also in forming part of the infrastructure for a new and broadly diversified industrial economy.

The traditional base metals for heavy industry—copper, lead, zinc, iron and nickel—are being sought, as well as gold and silver. Much of the work is situated to the western side of the country—the Precambrian Shield which forms part of the Afro-Arabian Swell—where there are known occurrences.

In the Eastern Province, which is geologically very different from much of the rest of the country, having younger rock, the exploration is likely to be devoted chiefly to the winning of industrial minerals. The eastern cover rock could be a source of limestone, gypsum, clay, salt and phosphates.

Knowledge of the kingdom's potential mineral wealth is severely limited; hence the variety of exploration work under the current development plan. Riofinex, a subsidiary of Rio Tinto-Zinc, has set up a geological mission to complement operations of existing surveyors. Consolidated Gold Fields is prospecting to the north of Jiddah.

In the past the accent has been firmly on exploration for oil and water, and while

evidence of other minerals were sometimes found, the investigations were not carried through because they were subsidiary to the main searches.

It is thought there could be uranium in the Eastern Province. Uranium occurrences are known in pockets on the Precambrian Shield and it is thought that through weathering, some uranium may have been redeposited off the shield and in the province.

At this stage geologists say that available data makes the prospect of uranium being found in the Eastern Province a "good theoretical target".

#### Information on uranium frequently sparse

Uranium being the most political of all minerals, information is frequently difficult to come by and references to it tend to be subdued. When Shaikh Yamani spoke a year ago of his hopes for the country's mineral potential, he made reference to "chemically active minerals", which was taken by observers to be a diplomatic euphemism for uranium.

As if to back up the view that not all that is known about uranium occurrences has been announced, geologists find it somewhat curious that there is such a deafening silence despite the fact that there has been so much oil exploration in this oil-bearing province, and particularly since there are known occurrences in the United Arab Emirates.

Discovery of traces of uranium should stimulate more interest than, for example, phosphates. That is, of course, on the assumption that oil drilling did turn something up, but given the present view of a "good theoretical target", some geologists are inclined to the view that if only by the law of averages, something should have been found.

If uranium is found in the Eastern Province, it is thought that it will most

likely occur in large low-grade deposits. Phosphates seem to have a strong chance of being discovered in commercial quantities in the province. There are extensive deposits being worked to the north in Syria, Iraq and Jordan.

The country has one fertilizer plant, producing urea from ammonia. An ambitious extension of the country's capacity was planned but later shelved because of large capacity increases in other countries. As it turned out the decision proved to be well timed, since the market for fertilizers subsequently collapsed because of recession and over-production.

However, significant discoveries of phosphate could lead to plans for the fertilizer industry being resurrected, particularly since, in line with its plans for industrialization, the kingdom hopes to embark on a large-scale agrarian programme.

The province's other potentially important resources are industrial minerals, for providing raw materials for the construction industry. As the country is expanding rapidly and industrialization will indefinitely increase demands for construction materials, this would lead to a significant saving of imports if a viable industry could be developed. There is also potential for lead, zinc and copper discoveries.

The search for minerals should not be allowed to obscure the large-scale exploration for water now being undertaken. Water resources become increasingly important as the country develops. Water is needed not only for agriculture but also for mining and heavy industry.

Its importance to industry can be seen from the fact that the country's fertilizer plant ran into major production problems when brackish water used in the cooling system caused severe corrosion.

A £3.25m contract has been awarded to Hunting Surveys to evaluate the water resources of a large aquifer and the potential for development of irrigated agriculture throughout the Eastern Province.

### Chances for North Sea skills

by Frank Frazer

Any businessman seeking opportunities in Saudi Arabia's Eastern Province will sooner or later come face to face with the oil and gas industries.

By far the largest buying agency in the region is Aramco, the state-controlled company responsible for developing, producing and maintaining most of the country's oilfields.

Though it arranges some of its purchases through branch offices in The Hague and Houston, most buying is done through the purchasing headquarters in Dhahran, in the Eastern Province.

The activities of Aramco have become of growing interest to British firms, particularly those who are looking for export outlets for technology pioneered in the North Sea. Aramco has control over more than a dozen offshore discoveries in the Saudi sector of the Arabian Gulf, including the giant Safiyyah field which has estimated reserves of nearly 12,000m barrels of oil.

The prospects for selling British oil and gas technology to Saudi Arabia and other Middle Eastern States have been studied recently by the Offshore Supplies Office, the government agency set up to encourage and help firms to enhance their share of a market in which wide expenditure is expected to reach £6,000m a year by the 1980s.

While opportunities in The Gulf will be an important component in the overall market, the technological demands are not going to be as borrowing as those of the North Sea. Water depths in The Gulf tend to be less than 50 metres compared with depths of more than 200 metres being tackled by those exploring beneath the North Sea.

Similarly, off-shore structures installed in The Gulf are unlikely to be faced with waves more than 10 metres high compared with the freak waves of 40 metres which have been known off British shores.

From the beginning it was obvious that The Gulf was not going to produce a market for the large and sturdy platform structures which have been made specifically

for North Sea conditions. There are already fabrication yards at Dubai and elsewhere in the region that can look after most of the required construction.

But that does not rule out the possibility of North Sea firms selling their skills in other areas of offshore technology. In particular there could be an outlet for services to minimize the risk of offshore pollution. The Gulf states share a common interest with their North Sea counterparts in wanting to safeguard fertile fishing grounds. There are probably opportunities also for offering other skills which improve the general safety of offshore operations.

A further area of opportunity for the specialist contractor could be the provision and maintenance of equipment to deal with gas found with oil both on land and at sea.

Anyone wanting to do business in Saudi Arabia, or elsewhere in the Middle East, must take account of local custom and commercial practice. Aramco, for example, follows a policy of buying locally where possible in keeping with the Saudi Arabian Government's requirement that preference should be given to home industry.

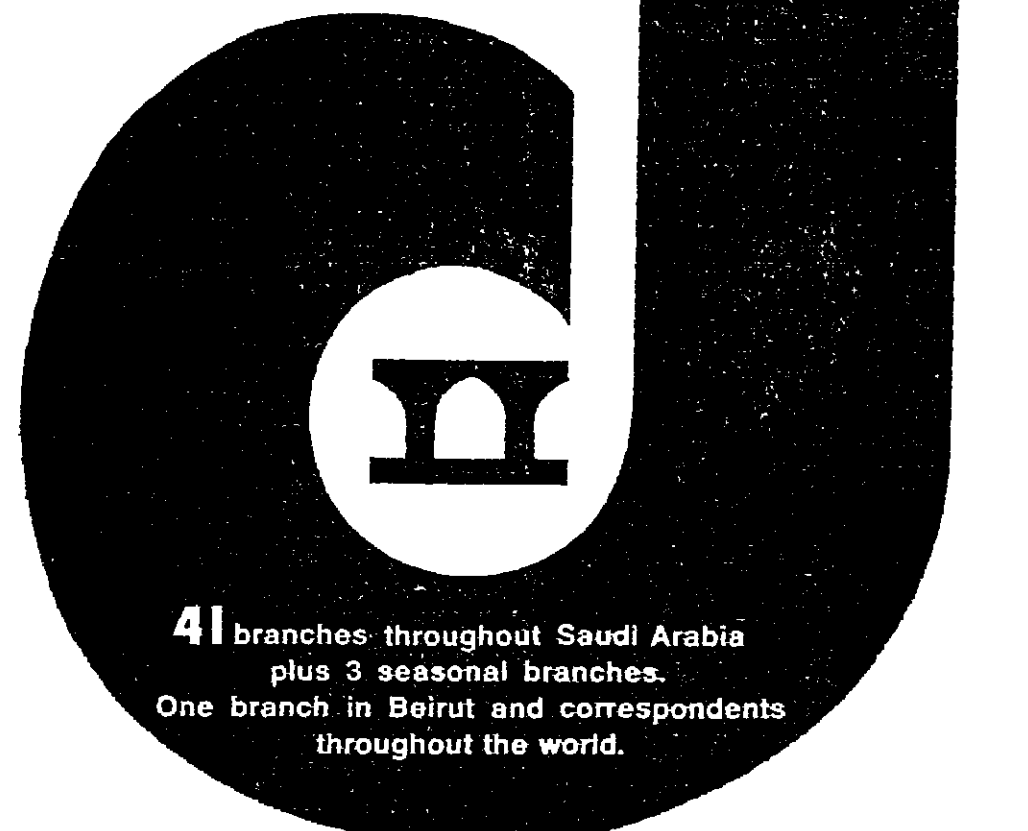
There are, of course, many services which cannot be provided locally. But Aramco is not new to the oil and gas business, having gained many years experience in partnership with leading multinational oil companies. Officials of the company are well versed in the procurement business.

For that reason the Offshore Supplies Office is keen to caution firms that an established operation like that of Aramco will not prove the easiest of markets for unknown firms to penetrate.

Aramco uses its own standardization procedures based on United States specifications. Goods being offered for sale require to conform to the established standards and have to be submitted for formal approval. Consideration will also be given to the availability of local servicing and the stocking of spare parts in making an economic evaluation of new products.

The author is energy correspondent, The Scotsman.

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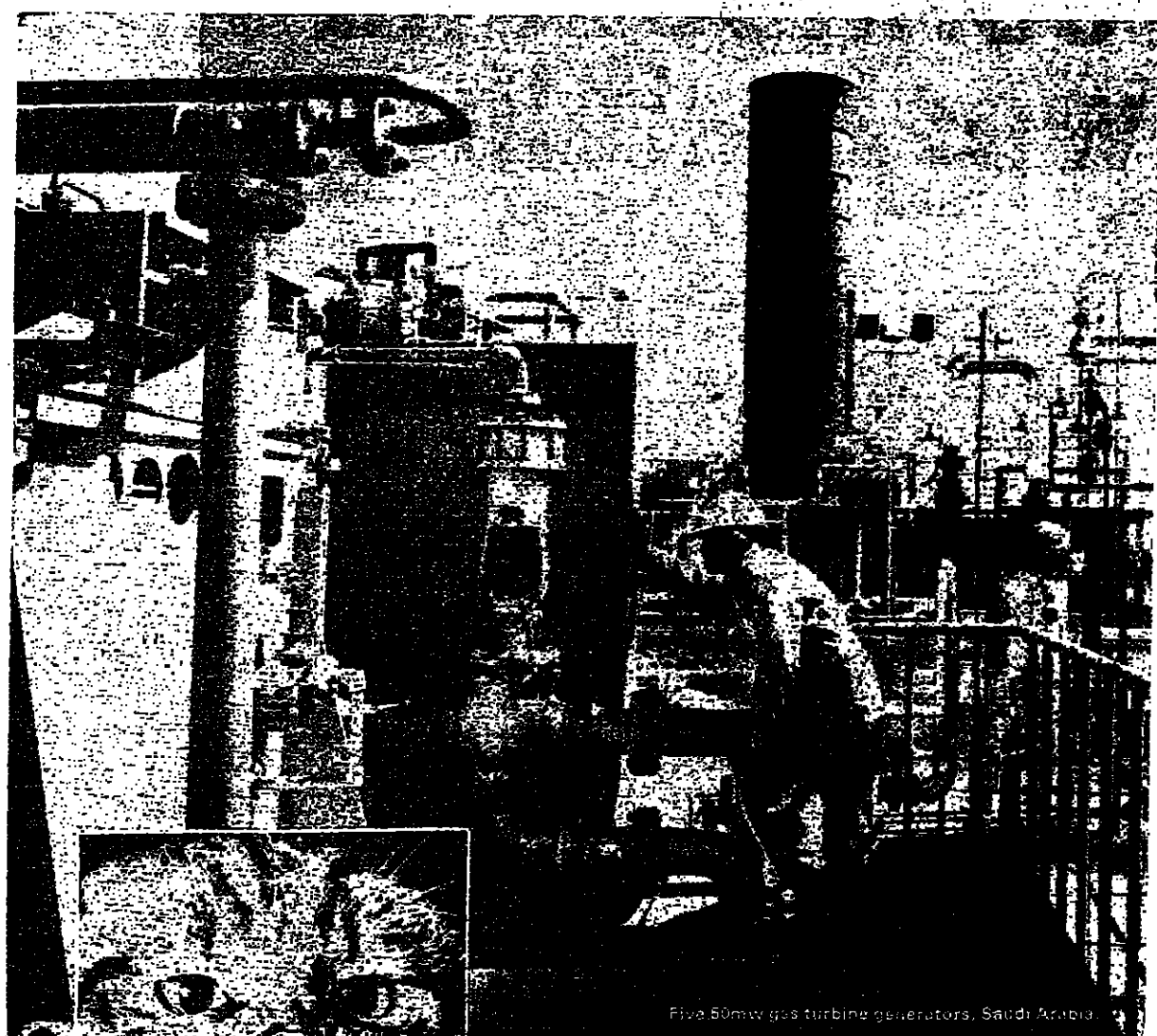


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Capital & reserves	327	403	Cash funds & short term deposits with banks	3164	6455
Deposits & current accounts	4669	5073	Loans & advances	1697	2335
Borrowings from banks	185	242	Investments	233	241
Other liabilities	324	470	Fixed assets	104	101
Sub totals	5527	10367	Other assets	257	474
Contra accounts	3857	5805	Sub totals	5527	10367
GRAND TOTALS	9384	19192	Contra accounts	3857	5805
			GRAND TOTALS	9384	19192

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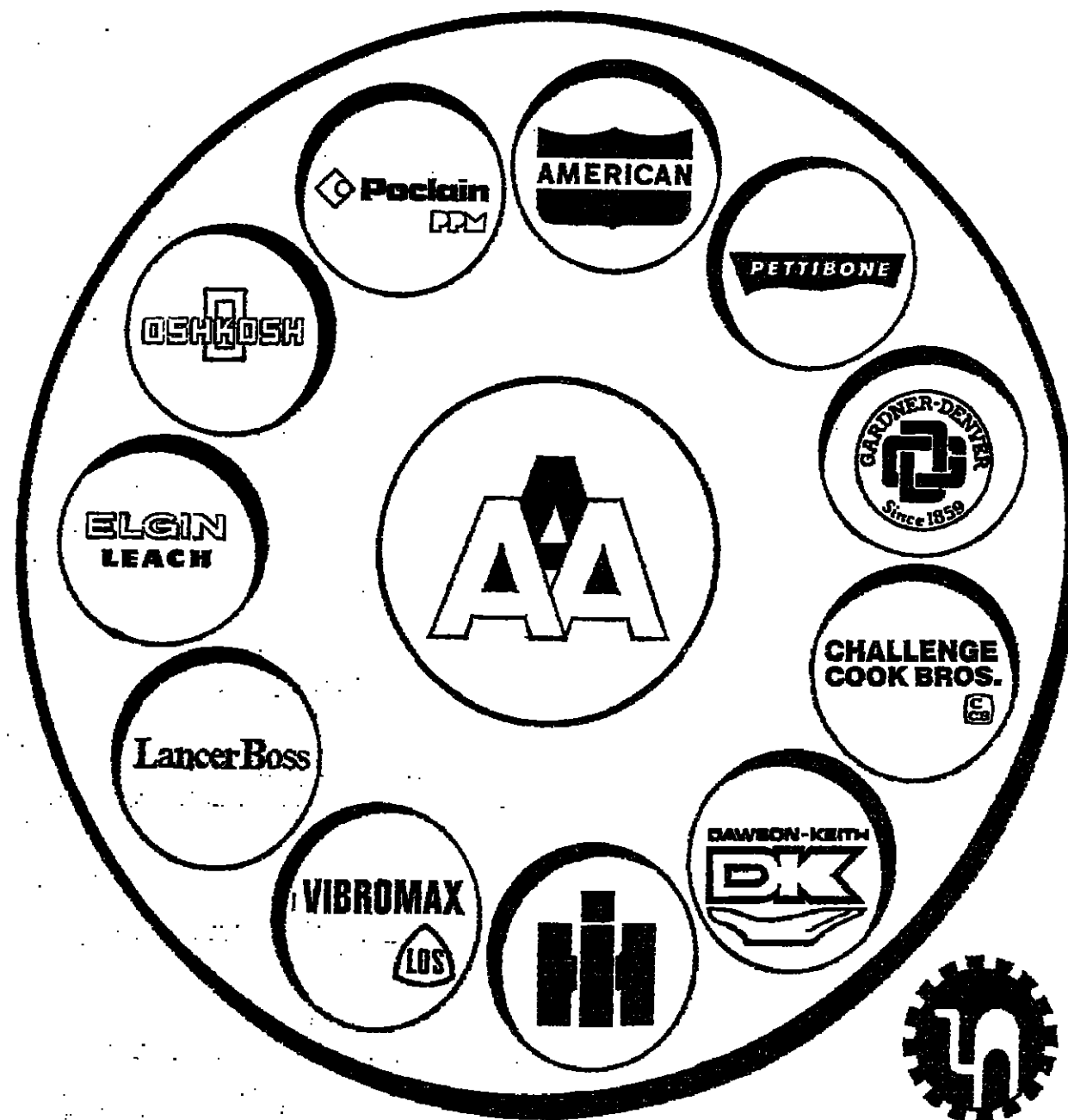
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# FOCUS ON

THE PAST AND FISHING IN THE GULF

## 'Christmas trees' that form a landmark in Arab territory

by David Holden

Sticking out of the ground in the middle of the low dome of rocky hills that overlooks the Gulf port of Al Dammam there is a modest little arrangement of pipes and valves of the sort that oilmen call a "Christmas tree".

There is nothing unusual about it: hundreds, if not thousands, of similar contraptions are scattered across the face of Saudi Arabia's Eastern Province, from the Kuwait frontier to the edge of the Empty Quarter. A Christmas tree is simply the visible apparatus of an oil well where the underground pressure is sufficient to force the fluid to the surface without an artificial pump.

This particular tree is rather special, nevertheless. A bronze plaque in English and Arabic explains that it is the first commercial oil well ever "brought in" on Saudi territory. Called Dammam No 7—for it was the seventh hole to be drilled after six dry ones on the so-called Dammam Dome—it gushed its first oil on March 4 1938. Forty years later it has produced 22 million barrels of oil and is still producing about a thousand barrels a day.

Dammam No 7 is the most important historical landmark of the Eastern Province. As the fount and origin of the entire Saudi oil industry, it represents the start of economic and social transformation without parallel in modern times. Yet it would be a mistake to suppose that just because oil now dominates the life of the Eastern Province there was no history to speak of before it was discovered.

On the contrary, the story of human occupation in the province goes back at least

10,000 years to the Stone Age people whose flints and other relics have been found in many oasis sites, from Jabrin in the south and Qatif in the north to Al Hasa, the biggest of all the Arabian oases, from which the Eastern Province takes its common, Saudi name.

From then until the present century those oases—and Al Hasa in particular—were one of the two chief keys to life in eastern Arabia. The other was the sea; and for at least the past 5,000 years, from the time of the Sumerian empire, the two were linked in a network of trading posts and sailing routes that stretched throughout the Gulf, from Mesopotamia to the shores of India, and sometimes farther still.

The isolation so characteristic of central Arabia was never, therefore, part of the eastern heritage, and several foreign empires left their mark upon the province. Greek ruins of the Seleucid period are plentiful, especially near the Qatif oasis inland from Jubail.

The Persians were responsible for the large community of Shiite Muslims in Al Hasa—the only substantial group of non-Sunni Muslims in Saudi Arabia, apart from the left-over pilgrims of the holy places—and both the Portuguese and the Ottomans have left substantial fortresses from their years of coastal occupation.

These eastern links with a wider world were always prone to interruption, however, through the raids of the lawless Beduin of the Arabian interior; and it was when these tribes were at last united under the original proselytizing movement of Muhammad, Ibn Abdul Wahhab in the eighteenth century that what is now the Eastern Province first came under Saudi rule.

Abdul Wahhab's alliance with Muhammad Ibn Saud, one of the many sheikhs of the Najd, swept all before it.

By the start of the nineteenth century the House of Saud and its Wahhabi cohorts had imposed their rule from coast to coast of the peninsula and were exacting tribute from tribes as far apart as the fringes of Oman and the outskirts of Baghdad. But their relentless expansion went too far. In the west it met the resistance of the Turks, who sent Ibrahim Pasha from Egypt to crush Saudi power in the Najd. In the east it was confronted by Britain's growing sea power, which checked Wahhabi piracy in the Gulf.

### First European crossing of peninsula

Between them the two empires brought the first Saudi state to an agonising end. In the process, they also inspired one of the oddest and most awesome of European journeys in Arabia when Captain George Forster Sadlier of the 47th Regiment of Foot was dispatched from Qatif to try to make contact with Ibrahim and invite him to join in a final attack on the Wahhabi ports of the Gulf. Poor Sadlier never did catch up with Ibrahim, who was apparently intent on getting back to Egypt from the Najd as soon as possible, but in his quest he covered 1,000 miles in 84 days and completed the first recorded European crossing of the peninsula from The Gulf to the Red Sea.

Forty years later, a Saudi renaissance, once more brought Wahhabi power to the Gulf coast, only to be crushed again when the Turks abruptly occupied the whole of the eastern region from Kuwait to Qatar in 1871. It was not until 1913, 11 years after Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud had begun the third Saudi revival with his capture of Riyadh from the Rashids of Hail, that Al

Hasa once more—and finally—fell to the House of Saud.

Then, with a characteristic during assault on the Turkish fort at the oasis town of Al Hufuf, Abdul Aziz forced the partition to surrender and marched the Turkish troops off to the coast to be delivered into British hands.

His success was probably crucial at that time. It simultaneously enriched his empty treasury with the taxes from the eastern oasis and enabled him to establish closer contacts with the British in the Gulf to whom—unlike his predecessors—he turned consistently for help and protection over the next 20 years.

Al Hasa proved, however, an uncomfortable acquisition at first. Torn by persistent tribal rebellion it required repeated martial forays by Ibn Saud himself to hold it, accompanied by the stern repression by his trusted cousin and appointed Governor, Abdullah bin Jilawi. The latter's reputation for ruthlessness combined with traditional desert honour has now passed into Saudi legend.

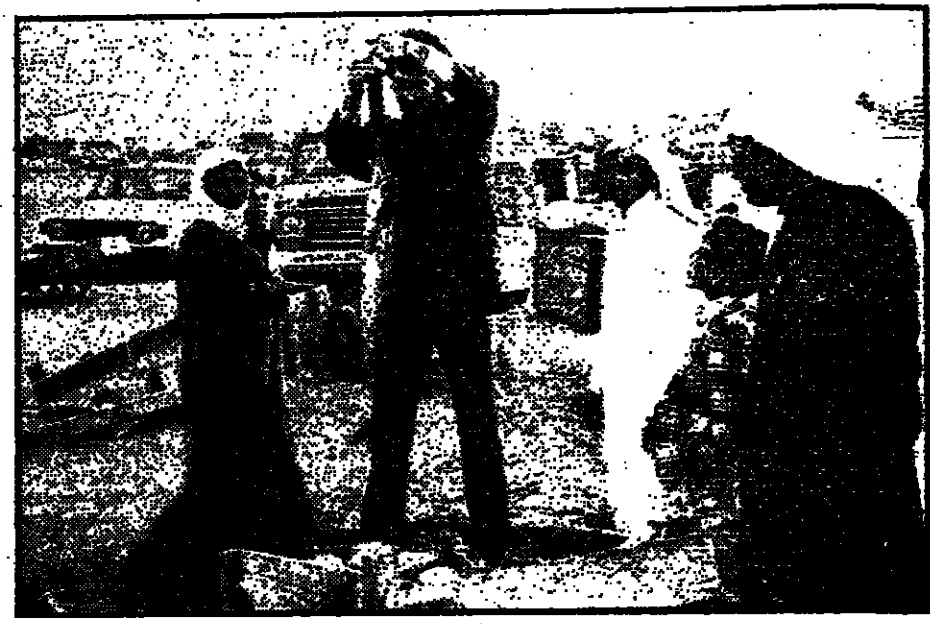
As stability was gradually established under bin Jilawi's command, the modern world began to move into the eastern territory. Motor cars, aircraft and the radio arrived to help in the suppression of the last uprisings and, eventually, to tame and chart the desert in the hands of the oilmen.

By 1933 the first Americans had come ashore at the little port of Jubail to begin the first proper geological survey of the region and by 1936 the Dammam Dome was already riddled with unsuccessful drillings.

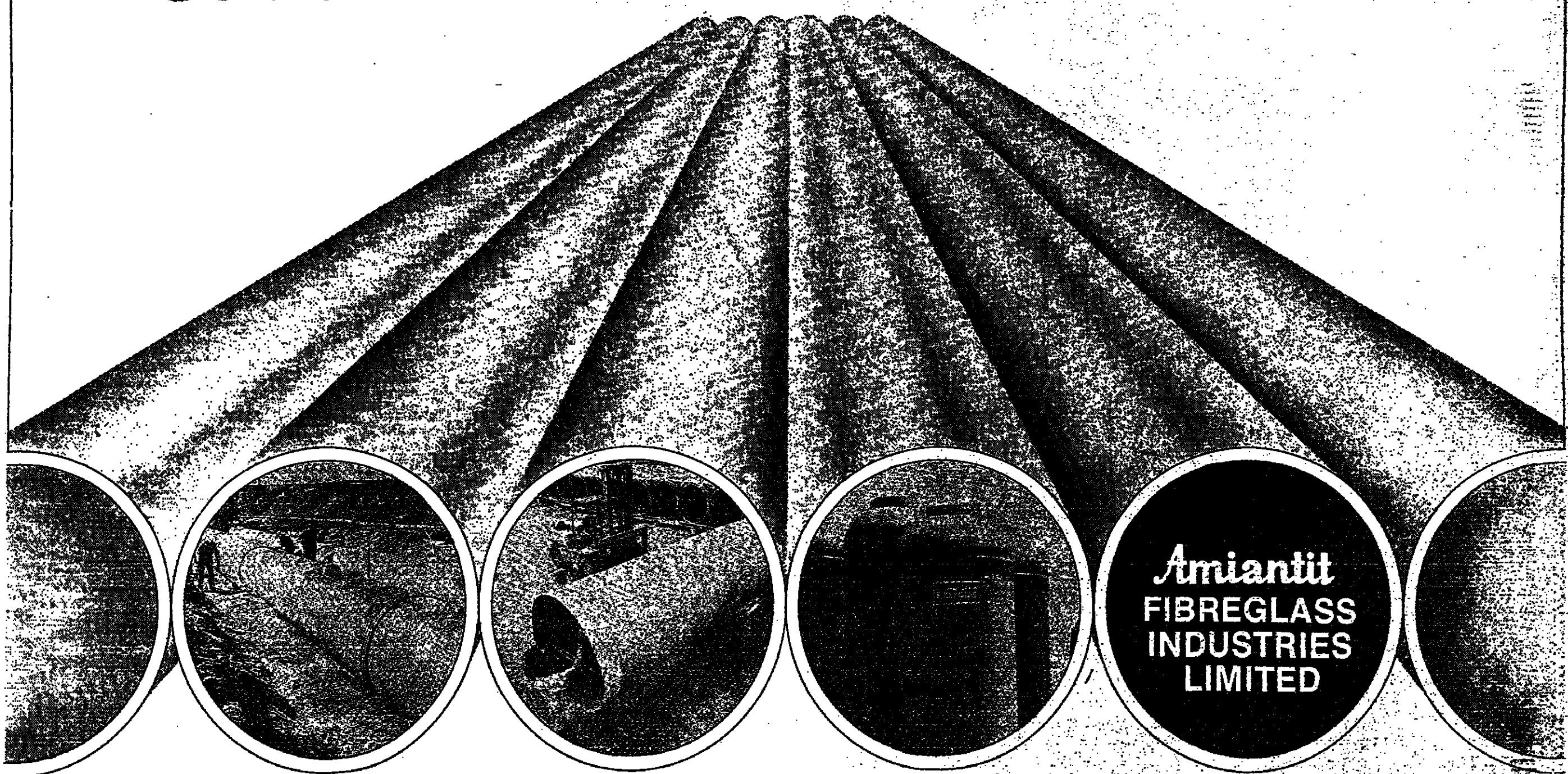
When Dammam No 7 came good two years later it sealed Saudi Arabia's modern fate, for it was the harbinger of all those unprecedented riches that now tie the entire kingdom, through its Eastern Province, to every corner of the world.



The British White Fish Authority is engaged on a programme to develop the fisheries of the Gulf coast and the Red Sea, in cooperation with the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Agriculture and Water, to increase food production, reduce imports and develop rural areas. Above left: a technical discussion aboard the research vessel Ibn Majed during Red Sea trials. Above right: the wholesale fish market at Qatif. Left: fisheries research vessel FRV-1 carries out resource survey and exploratory fishing in the Gulf. Below: samples of a catch of Spanish mackerel are weighed at Jubail on the Gulf coast.



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